

The Madawaska HIGHLANDER

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Pioneer Voices: Dougald McLellan (1877-1966): Part 2

As told to Elmer Strong:

Editor's note: Back in the 1960s Elmer Strong, originally of Matawatchan, conducted numerous interviews with local men who had been involved in the timber industry in their past. Many of these men who had worked the bush or the Madawaska River were at the time of the interview in their mid-80s or 90s. From these interviews Mr. Strong compiled a book entitled *Matawatchan: A glimpse into the past* (copyright). This is an excerpt from that book

This conversation was recorded at Mr. Dougald McLellan's house at Camel Chute, in July of 1965. Those participating in the conversation were Dougald McLellan, Jack MacPherson, Peter Kelly and Harold Carswell. In preparation for the taping session, arrangements were made for Jack MacPherson to meet us at Mr. McLellan's house, and I picked up Peter Kelly and Harold Carswell before driving to Camel Chute. The session had all of the trappings of a social gathering of old friends who had gotten together to reminisce about the past. It wasn't often that these old friends got together, and it was evident that they truly enjoyed the afternoon.

As often happens when a group of more than three or four get together, there is a tendency for more than one conversation to occur at any one time. Apart from this minor problem in taping the conversation the only task necessary was to occasionally try to steer the conversation back to a discussion of current events to the primary purpose of listening to their recollections of earlier days.

Mr. McLellan said, "The frontier of Matawatchan is pretty near all gone eh? -- the farms eh? When they raise the water. They are not going to be here long, over here. There will be not much left -- even the four hundred acres here, you

know. I had two hundred acres in the fifth and two hundred acres in the sixth and there's not much of it left. It is pretty flat. You see, they went right around it.

Now that big swamp went right up to Donald's. Then there's another swamp runs up on the right from Donald's there -- between Donald's and me. That's all gone. You know you made more money out of a bit of pulp. Yes, than you did out of the farm. Yes, people couldn't have lived here on the fields. You take in the winter time; you can take out a car load or two of pulp just by your self. Don't bother with hired help. It comes to quite a bit."

"I was telling Sam here the other day. He was Angus's boy -- no, Bill's boy. Jack was Angus's boy. I mind of going when Angus lived here. She was going to wash - - Mrs Lackie, you know. She got me over to mind Jackie that day. I mind of it well. When I was coming home, she gave me a big candy, the shape of a heart. You know I had that until not very long go -- after I was married. Angus was more of a sport than Bill -- for fun. They used to count Bill a very lazy man. Well yes, I don't know if something got wrong with him. They were good workers on the farm. They owned that farm at the ----. Oh dear, he was a strong man. He used to work with my father, back and forth. Oh, big man. I heard my father saying one time, he said, that man could put a horse on his back and walk away with him. Oh, he was a strong man. He must have weighed two hundred and fifty anyway. Oh, I think, maybe more. I used to hear them saying, where he was living the house was leaking to beat all. They used to say, why don't you shingle your house Bill? Well he said, when it's raining I can't work and when it is not raining, I don't need it. Oh, that was Bill. He left his crop here one year and never cut it. He lost some of his cattle in the winter for the want of feed. I mind of that."

Pete said, "They say that after he went

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Madawaska Frost



Artist: Ernie Jukes

What happened to sustainable development?

By Ole Hendrickson

Only twenty years ago Canada was competing for environmental leadership with countries around the world. We're now at the back of the pack.

The United Nations convened the Brundtland Commission in 1983. Canadian Jim MacNeill, previously a senior official in provincial and federal government departments, was lead author of the Commission's 1987 report, *Our Common Future*. It introduced the notion of sustainable development -- "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

The Brundtland Report also claimed that more rapid economic growth would be essential in both industrial and developing countries if "large parts of the developing world are to avert economic, social, and environmental catastrophes."

Environmentalists were sceptical. They feared the emphasis would be on growth, not sustainability.

Still, there was hope -- and some action. When scientists warned about the hole in the ozone layer, governments responded. In 1987 they signed the Montreal Protocol, agreeing to phase out ozone-depleting substances in spray cans, fridges and air conditioners.

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The best of the season to everyone!
From all of us at the Madawaska Highlander



Sustainable (Cont.)

Celebrations were muted when government officials gathered this year in Montreal for the 20th anniversary of the Protocol. It has largely accomplished what it set out to do. But replacing one chemical with another in our air conditioners can't save us from rapid global warming and extreme climate events.

2007 is also the 20th anniversary of the Brundtland Report. As Jim MacNeill observed in a recent speech at the University of Ottawa, the last two decades have been characterized by subsidies, inaction, and business as usual.

The environment did stay on the political radar screen for about five years after Brundtland. The 1992 Rio Earth Summit yielded UN treaties on climate change and biodiversity. The UN created a Commission on Sustainable Development that same year.

However, governments have paid only lip-service to sustainable development, according to MacNeill. They shied away from a key Brundtland recommendation to "merge environment with economics in our processes of decision-making... at the highest possible levels... our Presidents and Prime Ministers."

Addressing climate change and biodiversity loss requires bigger changes to the economy than dealing with the ozone hole. As MacNeill points out, we cannot seek world energy superpower status by subsidizing tar sands development and still fight global warming.

MacNeill notes that Canada lags well behind Europe. Our federal government has ruled out a carbon tax. It subsidizes oil mega-projects and gives tax breaks for resource developers. We have no national sustainable development strategy.

In seeking ever-faster growth and resource exploitation, Canada differs

little from developing nations. In the 1980s, Deng Xiaoping in China and Mikhail Gorbachev in Russia introduced major economic and political reforms in the communist system, leaving an open field for globalization and capitalism. Politicians created the World Trade Organization in 1995. Growth soared in southeast Asia, Eastern Europe, and Latin America.

Canadian trade officials staunchly resist any consideration by the global trading system of how a product is made. Free trade allows corporations to use polluting and inefficient manufacturing processes, sweatshops and child labour, and destructive fishing and timber harvesting practices. Inevitably, some do.

Our governments act as if their *raison d'être* is making trade deals, budgets and tax laws to stimulate economic growth. When it comes to the environment, politicians conceal inaction by putting a positive spin on weak or ineffective measures. Setting climate change targets for decades into the future is the "cheapest kind of political posturing", according to MacNeill.

Global warming makes concealment increasingly difficult. MacNeill detects a new wave of environmentalism that may force government officials to act as, citizens become more vocal in their demands for the environment. But affluent life-styles are addictive. Two decades after Brundtland, little evidence has emerged that economic growth and environmental protection are compatible.

Watershed Ways is distributed by the Ottawa River Institute, a non-profit charitable organization supported by volunteers, local donors and a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. For more information call 613-333-5534.

End

CABA Awards for 2007

Editor's note: In the production of the October Highlander some of the text from the CABA awards article got truncated or simply lost. We are reproducing in this issue of the paper the two award sections that were most affected.

An award for Excellence in Ambiance – Commercial Property was given to Calabogie Lodge. Owners/developers Gordon and Joan Wallace and Marjorie Doering have created a distinctive waterfront landmark. Extensive flower gardens, impressive rock arrangements and beautiful wood buildings with red roofs make Calabogie Lodge Resort a 'Canadiana' setting.

As a four-season resort, Calabogie Lodge offers many activities. On-site

activities are posted for the guests and enjoyed by many. Water equipment, boat rentals and the playground are popular during the spring and summer. In September, you may find guests enjoying the autumn leaves while taking a leisurely stroll in the village. In the winter; guests ski, skate and ice-fish. For off-site activities, brochures and maps are neatly arranged in the lobby.

As you enter the lobby, the décor creates an ambiance that is warm, inviting and friendly. The enormous polar bear, stone fireplace and wood ceiling attract the attention of guests and visitors. Adjacent to the reception desk, you find a salt water pool, change rooms, hot tub and sauna as well as an exercise room where guests can keep up their exercise routines. Exploring the upper area of the main lobby, you will find guests enjoying the games room, recreation room and the library/lounge that overlooks the lake.

One, two or three bedroom condominiums are offered for accommodations at the resort. The natural wood and tasteful decorating of the condos adds so the overall rural charm. Rentals and resale are available.

The location of the resort has made it a popular Gold Crown designation. The lodge has been rated in the top 10 per cent of resorts worldwide. It is no surprise that the lodge has been awarded Gold Crown designation from RCI (Resort Condominiums Inc.) for 15 consecutive years. Brimming with ambiance, the lodge serves as a role model not only for the Calabogie area but internationally as well!

An award for Excellence in Ambiance – Home-based Business will be given to Laura Bevington of Journey of the Spirit at the November 12 CABA meeting. This amazingly serene home-based business moved to Calabogie in December of 2005. Laura provides a unique centre for healing in a stunningly beautiful and secluded country setting. Situated on several acres of red pine woods at the top of Tatty Hill, Laura's family, friends and clients follow the winding, tree-lined driveway which opens onto a well manicured lawn in a park-like setting. The Scandinavian style log house and surroundings look like a painting. There are Muskoka chairs for relaxing either before or after a healing session. The view is superb – lots of wide open spaces, lots of sky and a magnificent view of Dickson Mountain. It seems that it would be good for the soul to sit in one of those chairs or to walk the trails through the woods, or to just sit out on the hill and enjoy glimpses of the abundant wildlife.

All the buildings on the property are nestled in a quaint setting are well cared for and very attractive in design. The beautiful, natural wood cre-

ates a feeling of warmth and calm. This feeling continues when you enter the house. The interior of the log home is a delight to see. One wants to linger. Upon entering the healing room, it is amazing to see that it is even more intriguing. Laura has created a serene oasis. The room has a calming quality. The atmosphere is so positive that one wants to stay a week, at least.

Laura provides a personal service where the journey to healing is custom designed to meet the specific needs of each client in a secluded and safe environment. The ambiance Laura has created is outstanding and definitely conducive to healing.

End

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Contact us!

Your comments and story ideas are welcome

Oops

The last issue of the Highlander had a few unfortunate omissions. When putting together a paper files are moved around to optimize space and occasionally this results in some articles being truncated or simply lost in the shuffle. In the October-November Highlander two stories suffered this fate: An Historic Journey by Jennifer Jimmo and The CABA Awards. To remedy this we are including the truncated portion of the CABA Awards article on this page and a summary of the Historic Journey article with the truncated concluding paragraphs on page 16. Our apologies to the authors.

The Editor

Pioneer voices (Cont.)

to Renfrew he was the best farmer down there. Well, they got along well. Oh, they say he was a cracker. Well, I worked in the brick yard for old Fred Hillary and in the fall we used to have to pile the clay and put it up in mounds for the brick the next year. And he said, Bill Lackie was better than any two men he ever had on the scrapper. Well they say he was a cracker at it."

Mr McLellan said, "Well Angus was not small either. No Angus was a big man too. Maybe almost as heavy but he wasn't as tall. He was broad."

Mr McLellan said, "Well I don't know but they didn't get along like the old man did. The old man had quite a bit of money and he had a few trees on that farm up here. I don't know whether they were able to help him. I don't mind of that".

Pete said, "Do you mind of the old man? You must."

"Oh yes. Of course I can remember when he died. He died at the plough handles."

Mr McLellan said, "Yes, Bill was here and Jim Johnston. They were here and they went over and got Bill for to help them before they were putting some cattle or something in here. Bill went home and he came running back and told about his father being dead and we all went over there. The old man was laying in the furrow. He had a hold of the plough yet and he was laying there down with his pipe in his mouth."

Pete said, "They say he came in and lit the pipe with a coal out of the stove and went back out. The horses went as far as the lines would let them go. They were a quiet old team, you know. A grey team. This was old Mr Lackie. Bill Lackie. His first name was Bill too. Oh boy, you know, the road used to go right past by our door that time. Angus was the oldest and if he had any trips to make, he made it at night. He would be going home at night and I mind we used to stay outside in the winter time until we were near froze to listen to him sing .when he was getting pretty near home. Oh, he had a lovely voice."

Mr McLellan said, "I will tell you who sings like him in the radio --- ah. -- you must have heard him. I forget his name now. Sounded a lot like Angus Lackie. I don't hear him lately".

"Not Roy Acuff?"

"No. Pretty near it though -- sounded like him. Pete said, "What do you call that negro that used to sing? -- he sang something like him."

Pete said, "I tell you, your father was a lovely singer".



Dougald McLellan (centre) with hunting mates and their deer 1929

"My dad? Well, do you mind of it?" said Mr. McLellan.

"Oh, I remember, he used to walk from here and go to church and he was the only man at that time -- he was the only one that could sing the Psalms. Boy, you could sit there and listen to him all day. Oh, he had a lovely voice."

Mr. McLellan said, "He used to teach the Thompson boys -- Colin and Alex and all these boys that time. They were all young. Old Colin used to tell me that he was the best singer he ever heard".

Mr. McLellan said, "Well there was none of our family was very good at it. Jack's family -- the girls were all good singers."

Pete said, "Yes I can remember him well."

Mr. McLellan said, "Well I had some of them books here and I kept any books like that. I should have put them where you could find them once they are racked, you know. You never just thought but if you had them now they would be worth something. You couldn't get one of them books now for no money. Some of them were in Gaelic. Old Sinclair was here one time and he said that book should be put away. Still for all it was laying there."

Pete said, "I had one down there, the whole history of Eganville from the first ones that come there. I lent it to someone and I don't know where it is. Well, they slip away, you know and you don't think of them."

Mr McLellan said, "My father didn't come from Glengarry. He came straight from Scotland to Burnstown. They settled there and then he started working and he went to school. He used to go to school in the summer and he worked in the shanty in the winter. That's how he got his education. He had quite a good education. He took a course in surveying too."

Pete said, "He was a surveyor and he was a liner and he was a pilot. He was counted one of the best pilots on the Madawaska River."

Mr. McLellan said, "Well he done that until he wasn't able and didn't get much for it. Never had very much. Only hard work. Sure he was stooped. His mouth pretty near touching the ground before he died."

Old man Thompson was pretty near the same eh? Yes. He worked hard. Dad used take wheat from the place there at Briscoe's -- Parks now. -- in a canoe to Calabogie and Springtown. There was a mill there".

Pete said, "One time they used to take it to Plevna. Yes, by Golly, they went with the jumper in the summer time".

Pete said, "I remember when Mrs Harrison was telling me one time that her and her brother went down to Plevna with some wheat and they couldn't get their grist that night. They had to stay over night and they stayed in a farm house just up from the mill. The next morning they got their grist and started home and they caught up to this young lad going to school. He says to the young lad, he says, 'who is them people, he said, that lives on the hill up there where we stayed last night?' Oh, he said, that's Mr Alcorn.' He says, "I thought so -- all corn and no potaties. All we got was boiled corn for supper and boiled corn for breakfast. And old Leclair, he couldn't eat a meal without potaties. He said, I thought so -- all corn and no potaties."

"They used to go down there with the grain to the old stone mill and carry it. And then drive down with the jumper -- one horse. You took an axe and another whipple tree and you used to put pieces on the runners when they would wear out. You know, you had to do it if you were starving. Yes, I remember them coming and saying that --- they would say, you put two bushels of wheat on the horse's back. Divided in two bags and they would lead the horse to Springtown and get it ground."

Mr. McLellan said, "I heard dad talking about them carrying it, the McNevin's, McLellan's, McDonald's. They were all down there you know and they carried it on their back. They would make a kinda of a cache on the road for _ _ _ _ . I don't know whether it is true or not but it was awful, you know."

Pete said, "Old man Hoare - he was married to my wife's sister. His father came from England. He was a mason. He used to round up there building foundations in stone buildings and he said, he would walk all the way from Maynooth and he would take bran in his cup and when he would come to a creek, he would eat the bran and drink the water. That's the way --tough going".

Mr. McLellan said, "You know, those people were very strong and bigger. Bigger than us, you know. Of course there was an odd small man but taking it on the run, they were bigger people than us."

Pete said, "I will tell you, they worked from when they were that high. They had to work. The younger people in one generation after the other is less work, less work and they weren't as hardy. I believe if they still worked from when they were kids, they would be just as hardy as they were then. They eat food that - - . It's this canned stuff that kills them. There is something that is killing the people now. Everybody is complaining about their stomach and its nothing but that darned canned stuff. It's full of acid. Kills the stuff of the food. Look at the young Thompson boy. You may say he was a young man -- sixty. Sixty years is not an old man. Sixty five, you say. I wouldn't think he was that old. Dick, you see, was only sixty two. Little Dick, Donald's brother. He was only sixty two".

"Who was that?"

"Dick. Little Dick."

"Oh yes, not old. Sixty two."

Harold said, "That fellow who died yesterday, he's sixty five. Dick Thompson -- Johnny and Billy Thomson's brother."

Mr McLellan said, "There is something wrong. I know when I was young, I didn't hear so much about this dying of heart disease at all. Go for years and years and never think of a doctor. Oh no, there was no doctors. Oh, this country has changed awful. There's something in this fallout from this dang stuff that they are mining at the war business. That outfit at Deep River there, where they are manufacturing that and they have a graveyard. And if any of that stuff is spilled on a truck, that truck is not used no more. They have to use rubber on every -- rubber boots, rubber suits".

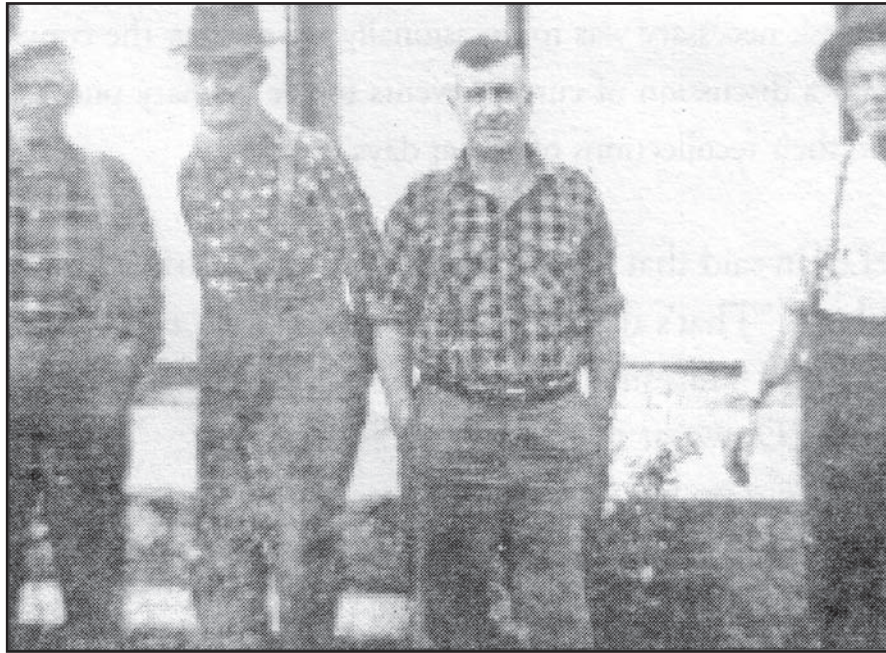
Pete said, "I mind when Johnny Shaw worked up there, he said that the floor that they walked on was ten inches of concrete. By gosh, it was so thick and they took that up and they put two inches of rubber and then the concrete

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Pioneer voices (Cont.)

on top of that. That's the only thing that would keep it back -- the rubber. You know that thin stuff must be in the air. Yes, lots of it. Even the animals. I believe the animals in the bush are dying -- partridges and rabbits. They are not as thick as they used to be. Partridges are going out of the country all together. The few of them that are here, they say they keep going and they don't stay. Well, there's something killing them".

Mr McLellan said, "That stuff comes for miles and miles and falls on the grass with the rain and everything else. There must be something in that. It must be something to it. People are dying. Look how many have died in Griffith. Take now, there's Belford, and there's Alfred John, and Jackie had an attack of it. And there's two of the McMahan's went and that fellow who died here a couple of weeks ago with the _ _ _ . Tom Brennan. And there's two people --- now people that come in. It is dangerous. They died here. There is one died at a lake back of Gillie Godin's. Up in there some place. And then this woman that built right near George Varies. Her man died last fall. And that fellow that lives where Mrs Diffy lives there. He's dead too. And Manwick Scrieber and Ellick Verick. It's a terror. There's something wrong. Its something that they are eating or ---.



L-R: Jack MacPherson, Peter Kelly, Harold Carswell, Dougie McLellan

"Pete said, "In a funny way -- funny thing that they take -- not like the old diseases at all. Some of them drops right down. Yes, Neil McLellan. He went right in the home. Somebody wanted to phone him. He just lifted his hand and he just fell".

"That was Jack's boy?"

"Yes."

"Old Eddy Johnston got that he couldn't do anything, you know, and he was in bad shape too. He went to

get his pension. They said, Oh no, you couldn't get it before you were seventy. Well, he says, that's a long time to starve. He got it alright. He was afraid. You see, he had seven hundred dollars in the bank. That wouldn't keep him getting it. No, not in his time. But when I got it, if you had any money in the bank, you didn't get it."

Mr. McLellan said, "I was seventy two when I got it. I always thought that it wasn't a good thing. I thought it was going to put up the taxes and ruin the

country. I always had that in my head. Then when everybody was getting it, somebody told me. Well it was one of the officials, themselves. You might as well have it as the rest of them."

"I am afraid our country is done though. I don't believe it will ever grow a crop again. They don't want us old fellows to die with any money".

"Well when your gone Jack, we don't want nothing.

"Money is no good or nothing."

Pete said, "It is better to be like old Henry Bush. We were in the camp one time and we were going to come out home on Saturday. It was in March. When we came back on Sunday and was telling him about so many cattle dying. Some were losing two and three head and etc. He was taking it all in and he said, well, 'God bless the man that has nothing, because I have nothing to lose.' He said, 'you're just as well to have nothing. They will take it from you anyway'".

End

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ERNIES MUSINGS

About places and names

By Ernie Jukes of Camp J

Take me back to those Highlands
Where the Madawaska winds its way
Through the pine and hardwood ridges
And the scent of fresh mown hay
Where logging trucks are still haulin'
Down ol' Highway Forty-One

From Vennachar to Matawatchan
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As with the hamlet of Wilson, many places unfortunately lack much recorded history. But we do know it was named after the John Wilson family who early on was postmaster there. Is Lynn McLaren the mayor there yet? Sometimes names of places simply came from colours. Imagine the early morning white mists rising off the cool waters to become White Lake or the reflection of a wonderful sunset to become Golden Lake. Whole states like Colorado simply came from the Spanish for the color red of the soil and subsequent red waters.

Plenty of places involved actual happenings or historical figures that often account for many of the names of places we have today. The Town of Almonte was named after an important Mexican General, Juan Nepomuceno Almonte. An envoy, he died in Paris, France without ever setting foot on Canadian soil. Almonte was also the birthplace of Dr. James Naismith, the creator of Basketball. Robert Tait McKenzie, probably North America's greatest sculptor was also born there. You may see his studio at the nearby Mill of Kintail.

This part of Ontario was settled initially by our first nations. The native chiefs who left their mark with places like Algonquin Park and the Pontiac, or also Tecumseh the great Shawnee leader who helped us defeat the U.S. in the 1812 - 1816 war are just a few. My old moose hunting area at Wawa comes from the Ojibway for wild goose.

Of course the grand influence of the French Canadian culture following Cartier, Brule and Champlain's explorations extended settlements deep down to the bayous of Louisiana. The Scots brought more than their tartans and squeal of their pipes as they settled places all over the country. My Grandmother was a McCabe who were sept to the Clan McLeod and they all fought the English at Culloden. They brought their dour ways and tough farming

methods to the new world. The gregarious Irish settled places like Shamrock and share all that other rocking when we celebrate St. Patrick's Day over at the nearby mountain named after him. These combined with the French lifestyle and their fiddle and jig, all contributed to the valley ways and the country music which we still enjoy today.


Many folks come to visit sometimes for hunting and fishing but end up returning often to stay as residents when they retire. They too become proud Canucks leaving their mark and extending our collected culture. They and their sons and daughters go on to become athletes, writers, singers, musicians, designers, artists, and many successful leaders in their communities across Canada. Many immigrants brought the names of places from where they immigrated like the Polish of Wilno. The Scots of Glengarry or the Germans of Hanover and Shutt.

History provides names like today's Kitchener being renamed during WW 1 for Lord Kitchener. Its original name was Berlin due to the large immigration from Germany during the mid 1800's. In spite of many of our ancestors being caught in foreign politics they are loyal to their new land. There were so many Germans in Ontario that it became our third language. This is still evidenced by the many German surnames of those who live throughout our Greater Madawaska Highlands. Three generations of my ancestors sailed on the same ship from Brandenburg, Prussia. During World War 1 their sons received many medals for valour from King George V at Buckingham Palace for successfully fighting their cousins in Flanders. That makes us seven generations of proud Canadians. We all have stories to tell how we came from far away but became a part of this wonderful nation. We should be proud of our heritage.

A few places found their name ironically, in error. When a cartographer was mapping the Madawaska he asked what was the name of the settlement and saw mill just south of Griffith. The fellow answered in his vernacular twang "Camel Chute" but what he actually said was "Campbell's Chute"... too late, it stuck, so the story goes. When I painted that same mill another half century later it was owned by Donald Thompson and we all called it "Donald's Mill" or "Camel Chute Sawmill". It disappeared when Ontario Hydro constructed the Mountain Chute generating station at Black Donald Lake.

It used to be the sweeping rush of the log drives carrying black spruce and white pine down to the Ottawa that was the most exciting occupation a man could have. There are stories galore of the camboose camps and the endurance of

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As we complete our fourth year as the Madawaska Highlander, “Peace, prosperity and happiness” is our wish for all of our readers and advertisers. While this is the time of year that good wishes are particularly dispensed, we at the Highlander are lucky to have had good wishes and encouragement given to us throughout the year. Really, it’s what keeps us publishing! Thank you all!

By necessity, our part of world was born out of community and community still exists here. It is something that should be cherished and maintained. As your community newspaper, we hope we have played a small part in binding this wide-ranging and sometimes disparate township together.

Our experience over the last four years shows that the winter months are very lean. Without our seasonal residents business activity drops considerably and advertisers have understandable reluctance to place an ad. All this to

say is that the Highlander will be taking a break for a few months. The next Madawaska Highlander will resume its publishing schedule in March of 2008.

Thank you to all of our contributors; particularly to Garry Ferguson, Angela Bright, Mary-Joan (Skippy) Hale, Susan Veale, Wes Bomhower, Doug Bell, Floris Wood, Jim Weatherall, John Roxon, April Cappel, Elmer Strong, Ernie Jukes, Lynn Jones and Ole Herdrickson (of the Ottawa River Institute) plus other occasional contributors. They are really the substance of this publication.

Thank you to all of our advertisers. There wouldn’t be a paper without them. They pay the bills.

Our core production group, Richard, Adam, Jamie and me (Bill) wish you all a happy Christmas and the very best in the coming year.

Life is short, live in peace together!



Dear Editor

The Valley Heritage Radio, (98.7 F M) fundraiser held at Calabogie Peaks on November 17 past, was a resounding success with total receipts in excess of \$650.00 .

There were twenty one entertainers providing a good assortment of music from country to hillbilly and Celtic, and the dance floor was seldom empty. Maria L’Ascala, the famous opera singer from Italy, (alias ‘Skippy’ Hale, Calabogie’s librarian), made an impressive appearance with Dai Bassett of Heritage Radio who also brought some laughter as he performed his own Valley songs.

The Helferty sisters from Douglas, Christine, Catherine and Rachel danced up a storm to fiddler, Doctor Trisha Gibson, and Mike Cloutier of Heritage Radio sang beautiful country solos. M.C. and sound man, Kevin Lentz, didn’t have much time to perform as he was kept busy adjusting to the lively music of ‘The Old Lakers’, featuring Garry Perry on banjo, then later Duncan Robertson’s country group filled the dance floor. People from as far away as Perth

and Ottawa came to listen, the North Algona All Stars with their own brand of Valley Blue Grass and many came to hear Elaine Yeatman’s soprano voice accompanied by pianist Shirley Pearce.

It was a chilly evening and night maintenance worker, Mike Riopelle, received almost a standing ovation when he came in to light the fireplace in Calabogie Peak’s Black Donald Room.

Though all the entertainers are not named here personally, on behalf of Heritage Radio and myself, wish to thank Kevin Lentz for the use of his piano and sound system, and all the work involved in the setting up and removing of same. Also a big thank you to all musicians, workers, door keepers, the gent who so graciously recorded for later showing on DVD, PLUS Calabogie Peaks for the use of their facilities; and thank you all, our audience, for your donations and participation.

Sincerely, Wes Bomhower

Looking back...



Dougald McLellan’s mother at 90 meets the Prince of Wales in North Bay (1919)

Visionary scientist sees opportunity in climate crisis

By Lynn Jones

The news about climate change has been bad lately. It seems that global warming is happening far faster than anyone expected. For example, scientific estimates for the length of time it will take for the Arctic to become ice-free were revised downward dramatically twice in the last six months. Based on unprecedented melting of Arctic ice this past summer, scientists are now suggesting that the Arctic could be ice-free as early as 2015, eight years from now. Besides leading to a one-meter sea level rise and submerging many coastal communities around the world, an ice-free Arctic is a “tipping point” that will lead to accelerated warming since Arctic ice normally reflects sunlight while open water absorbs it.

Such news about the hotter world unfolding around us strikes a combination of fear, depression and denial in most people but not so for Dr. Elisabet Sahtouris, acclaimed author, evolution biologist, and futurist who is coming to Pembroke on November 23. A committed optimist and someone who takes the long view, Elisabet sees challenges such as global warming and sea level change as a great opportunity for humanity.

“The really exciting thing about being alive today is that we’re all here for a great transformation” says Sahtouris. She sees the huge crisis we face

as a powerful stimulus for evolution to a more mature stage of the human species characterized by cooperation rather than hostile competition. She cites abundant evidence for this type of evolution in other species such as ancient bacteria that evolved into nucleated cells and ecosystems such as rainforests where there is a lot more cooperation than hostile competition.

Sahtouris points out that Darwin’s theory of evolution doesn’t go far enough because it stops at the adolescent phase where “you take all you can get and try to outdo your enemy...But that’s not what sustainability is all about” she says. “Sustainability happens when species learn to feed each other instead of fight each other”. She sees humanity doing exactly this right now, learning to communicate and cooperate as one global family.

Although the job we face is monumental in proportion, somehow listening to Elisabet describe it, one is energized and inspired. In her words, “Almost everything in our world from its money system, politics and economics to education, health care and social relations has been defined as unsustainable. Hear the beauty in that word unsustainable because it means ‘Can NOT last; MUST be changed!’ We have to reinvent our human world; there is no other choice!”

Continued on next page

Climate Crisis (Cont.)

Sahtouris draws inspiration from the extraordinary designs provided by nature that show how we can live more lightly and sustainably. She also draws from the wisdom of indigenous peoples with whom she has worked extensively and co-founded the World-wide Indigenous Science Network.

Another source of inspiration for Sahtouris is the universe itself. "To me the universe is fundamentally Consciousness -- alive, aware and intelligent. This Consciousness is non-local, i.e. everywhere, and is what different cultures variously personify as God, under many names. It is also what physicists now call "zero point energy" -- the infinite energy existing at every point in space", she says.

Dr Sahtouris was born in the United States, received her Ph.D. from Dalhousie University in Canada and taught at the University of Massachusetts and MIT where she worked with James Lovelock and Lynn Margulis, pioneers of the Gaia Theory that describes Earth as a living, self-regulating being. She has also collaborated with evolutionary economist, Hazel Henderson. Fairly early in her academic career, Sahtouris became dissatisfied because science wasn't addressing the important questions about humanity. So she left academia and went to live a life of voluntary simplicity on a Greek island

where she could be closer to nature and have time to ponder the big questions.

Since her first move to Greece many years ago, Sahtouris has lived simply with few possessions and small living quarters in such diverse places as the Peruvian Andes, the Arizona desert and a few blocks from the White House in Washington D.C. She continues to feel much freer and richer for it. As she says, "Wealth is a matter of perception and priorities".

Here are some parting words from Elisabeth Sahtouris:

I have tremendous hope for all of us humans together, using our creative technology, our computers, in order to link each other -- linking our minds, our concepts, our visions. If we don't believe in a positive world in which all humans are liberated to express their creativity, we cannot build it. We must hold the vision very clearly and then go about doing whatever each of us loves doing most, knowing that the others will do the other parts. None of us has to do the whole thing. Together we can really make it happen.

Watershed Ways is distributed by the Ottawa River Institute, a non-profit charitable organization supported by volunteers, local donors and a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. For more information call 613-333-5534.

End

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Griffith Matawatchan News

By Garry Ferguson

The monthly Food and Fellowship meals held alternately in Griffith and Matawatchan have been made possible by two groups of hard-working volunteers. The function has served the community well. It has been an opportunity to have a good meal, socialize, catch up on the current gossip or just shoot the breeze.

The old saw concerning volunteerism, which says that ten percent of the people do ninety percent of the work, unfortunately too often rings true. Consequently, those who number among the ten percent often become tired, not just because of one particular responsibility but because of the many they are inclined to take on. This has been the case among the toilers who have made these get-togethers possible and so the decision was made to cancel the program at the end of the year. The Denbigh Griffith Lions Club – bless

‘em all – stepped into the breach and volunteered to take over the task of providing Food and Fellowship beginning at the first of the new year.

The Club will continue to alternate the venue each month but because of renovation to the hall in Griffith, that rotation is sure to be modified. Long-standing schedules for Lions meetings and functions may make it necessary to change the dates, so check with someone in the know (not me) before showing up at the Lions Hall or the Matawatchan United Church with an empty belly and a fin in your fist.

There are a few events in the Denbigh Griffith Lions Den that the Pride would like readers to remember.

The first is the Monster Bingo at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday December 11. You could win one – or both – of the \$500.00 games. Don't snicker: there has been some substantial coin won lately. In October, Grace Inwood took a jackpot of

\$500.00 and in November Merla Stanley won \$622.00 on the Lucky Ducky.

All young'ns are welcome to the Children's Party, again in the hall, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on December 16. If North Pole Incorporated's toy production stays on track, Santa should be able to free up enough time to make the scene. There is a rumour however, that the helpers at his Chinese branch are in trouble because of lead in their something or other, so keep your fingers crossed. The Annual New Years Eve Party is on again from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. on - you guessed it – New Years Eve, December 31. There'll be a bar, music by a DJ and a sit-down turkey supper at midnight. Everyone who can plunk down \$15.00 is welcome. Now that's the bargain of the year.

Gary Guilmette, the Dump Dude (D.D.), recently spoke to our waste-site news correspondent. He stated that he appreciates the cooperation of all his local clients and their attention

to the three "R's" over the past year. He wishes all a most joyous Christmas and a great new year. It's not too late to drop around to one of the waste sites and do a little Christmas shopping from Gary's laid-aside stock.

On Saturday November 18, the Fish and Game Club held its Last-of-the-hunt-weigh-in Get-together at the Matawatchan Hall and sent several people home with heavier pockets and lighter steps. This was especially true for Gary Berwick of Newmarket, Ontario because a raffle ticket he bought won the four-wheeler. John Gordon of Monkland won the \$300.00 second prize and Maurice Schnob the \$100.00 third.

Wayne Gurnhill of Morrisburg won the prize for the biggest buck weighed in, Lawrence Malcolm of Griffith for the biggest doe, Chase Kauffeldt, Griffith, the mystery weight for bucks and Rayette Fitzroy, Griffith, the mystery weight for does. It's good to see the Club end the year on a high note.

End

Denbigh Checking In

By Angela Bright

* Forty-seven descendants of David Youmans and Samantha Maybee met at the Denbigh Community Hall. An enjoyable afternoon was spent tracing the family tree, looking at pictures, listening to music provided by our talented family members, eating a delicious meal and of course, visiting. Prizes were awarded for: the youngest member present, Liam Cairns, great grandson of Grace and the late Harvey Youmans; the eldest member present, Alice Chatson, wife of the late Herbert Chatson Senior, and the farthest travelled, from Owen Sound was Wes and Jean Tolton, daughter of the late Clayton and Ruth Youmans. The largest family in attendance was the family of Grace and the late Harvey Youmans. Plans are in the works for next year. Families need to come together on happy occasions, not sad ones.

*Seven kids turned out for the Denbigh Library night of Halloween stories, on October 11th. They had fun making ghosts for their craft project. A reminder to all, to stop in take advantage of the library's Service Canada/Service Ontario site, with internet sites, brochures and pamphlets available. Our library also participates in inter-library loans and inter-branch loans, and has a good selection of best sellers, large print, and DVD's on hand. Children have access to an activity center and up to date materials. There is also a monthly program for the kids, with the last one this year, on December 13th,

from 6 to 7pm. Hours for the Denbigh branch are Monday 1-7pm, Tuesday 9am-2pm, Wednesday 4-7pm, Thursday 4-7pm, and Saturday 8am-2pm. Visit the web page any time at, www.addintonhighlandspubliclibrary.ca

*On Friday October 12th, children, teens and a handful of parents from the Vennachar Free Methodist Church got together for food and fun.

For dinner, Mexican fare, tacos & nachos were gobbled up; with make your own sundaes for dessert. Up next was a Bible sword drill to determine who would be the lucky one to take a whack at the piñata.

In the end, it only took one strike and the kids were scrambling for the candy as the piñata hit the floor. Some games were played and then everyone headed home for a good night's rest.

*The Halloween party on Sunday October 28th was great, with about 48 kids in attendance. There were lots of interesting costumes and the kids carved pumpkins, decorated cupcakes, made necklaces, had a colouring contest and had a blast. A big thank you to the children, and to the organizers of Denbigh Recreation who made it a wonderful day!

*The Community Forum on Climate Change on October 30th brought 30 people out to participate in a discussion lead by Dr. Robert McLeman of the University of Ottawa. Dr. McLeman gave an outline of the study and forum "This is a larger research project I am doing on the impacts of climate change on the communities of the Hwy 41 corridor. The research is being funded

by Natural Resources Canada, who is interested in learning how seasonal-economy communities adapt to stressful climate conditions. I will begin the forum by doing a presentation on what facts are known about climate change and some of the global-scale impacts. Then, I hope to join with participants in discussing changes in weather patterns they may have observed in the Denbigh area over the decades, whether those changes are good or bad for the community, and what things could be done to ensure the quality of life in the Denbigh area is not adversely affected by changing climate." After the overview was presented, the conversation focused on three questions: "Are weather/climate patterns changing in this region? How do weather patterns affect the well-being of your community? What things could or should be done to ensure your community's future well-being is protected and enhanced?" Dr. McLeman also answered a question that everyone was curious of – Why is the study being done here, in our village, in our township? , to that Dr. McLeman explained, "There are many Denbigh's out there, from coast to coast." Our experiences are not so unlike those of other regions.

The project is our opportunity to provide input and comments, indicating what other communities are encountering as well. The evening wrapped up with coffee, donuts and certainly more talk on the issue. If you were not able to attend the forum and would like to find out more about the research project, visit www.addington.uottawa.ca – this site has been designed with dial-up internet users in mind. Dr. McLeman was pleased with the turn out and appreciates the information that was shared.

He even managed some time to enjoy the countryside thanks to some of our friendly folk! Dr. McLeman's goal is to put together a first draft report in December that includes the information gleaned from individuals and community groups. Once the community has had opportunity to review the study, a final version will be completed in early 2008 and be available at area libraries, the township office and online.

*A fantastic turnout at the Hunter's Supper November 9th. Just shy of 100 people sat down to a great turkey dinner, thanks to the ladies and gentlemen of St. Luke's United Church.

*Remembrance Day was observed on November 10th in Denbigh. Shirley Shouldice conducted the service, with an opening from Dave Morris and a welcome from Canadian Legion Branch 328, Northbrook, President, Cecil Hawley. Wreaths were placed at the foot of the cenotaph paying tribute to our brave soldiers who over the years have fought for freedom and peace. Evelyn Petzold placed a wreath as Silver Cross Mother, Reeve Henry Hogg on behalf of Addington Highlands, Gary Malcolm of the Denbigh/Griffith Lions Club, Dave Harcourt on behalf of Scott Reid and Randy Hillier, Reeve Emon & Councilor Lehnhardt from the Township of Greater Madawaska, Mayor Maguire from the Township of North Frontenac, as well as one in remembrance of his father. World War I & II veterans, the Legion, Peace Keepers, Service Men and Women, Cadets, and four children representing the youth of Denbigh presented wreaths as well. Often we feel so far removed

continued on page 16

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Healthy Foods for Christmas

By Susan Veale

There is a well known phenomenon around Christmas, New Year's or Thanksgiving known to some as the "invisible man." This occurrence is described as "MAN'S" ability to remove his presence from kitchen "dish washing duty" by claiming, "The turkey made me tired." Turkeys do not create fatigue. The culprit is the overindulgences of carbs, sugar and fat. This combination of great taste bloats, with an end result of unwanted stored fat, a decrease in energy and digestive sluggishness.

In our home, we eat the same holiday foods but cook them differently. For those who follow our monthly column, here is a Christmas menu high in nutrients and low in unwanted carbs and fats. To make the meal more beneficial, we suggest selecting "certified organic" raw ingredients.

Menu for 4 to 6 people

Appetizers

Salmon Stuffed Pitas
Hummus and Raw Vegetables

Main Course

Roasted Turkey with Garlic Butter Sauce
Basmati Rice and Shitake Mushroom Stuffing
Candied Sweet Potatoes
Lemon Garlic Snow Peas and Carrots with Almonds
Festive Winter Salad Bowl

Dessert

Gingerbread Cake
Tofu Spiced Cookies
Rooibos or Mint Tea

Recipes

Salmon Stuffed Pitas

4 Tbsp fresh lemon juice
4 Tbsp fresh lime juice
2 tsp Dijon mustard
2 cups drained canned wild pacific salmon, rinsed well
2 celery stalks, with leaves, minced
2 scallions, minced
3 whole wheat pitas
8 red or green lettuce leaves, thick center stems removed

To make stuffing, whisk lemon, lime juices and mustard in a medium bowl until well combined. Add salmon, celery and scallions and mix with a fork. Cut the pitas in quarter and line each quarter with lettuce. Spoon the salmon mixture into pitas.

Basmati Rice and Shitake Mushroom Stuffing

1 cup of white or brown basmati rice
2 cups of water
1 cup of chopped shitake mushrooms
2 stalks of celery finely chopped
1/2 cup of onion finely chopped
2 tsp chopped garlic
1 tsp chopped fresh sage
1 tsp chopped fresh summer savory
2 Tbsp of olive oil
1/8 tsp of sea salt

Bring water to a boil, and then add rice. Reduce heat to low, with lid on, simmer until rice is cooked. Place olive oil in frying pan, sauté mushrooms, celery, onion, garlic until soft. Add herbs and salt. Mix together and let sit to blend flavours. When rice is cooked add to mushroom mixture, set aside to cool as the turkey is prepared.

Roast Turkey with Garlic Butter Sauce

Wash 10 to 12 pound turkey inside and out and pat it dry. Place the bird on a rack in a roasting pan breast side up. Fill both cavities with stuffing. Any leftovers, heat on top of stove and serve with meal. Make small slits into the skin and insert cloves of peeled, sliced garlic, also insert garlic cloves between legs and body. Rub entire bird with butter (not margarine) to seal in the juices. Sprinkle with paprika.

Pour about 1 inch of water in bottom of roasting pan and bake in preheated oven at 325- 350 degrees F. until the turkey is done depending on the size. In the last 1/2 hour of cooking, baste the turkey with the pan drippings 1 -2 times. When cooking is finished, remove turkey from pan. Remove stuffing and place in warm oven until serving time. Let turkey sit 20 minutes before carving. While sitting, prepare sauce.

Sauce

Pan drippings
1 tsp minced garlic
2 tbsp arrowroot flour as thickener
1 cup of room temperature water

Pour pan drippings through a sieve into a sauce pan. Bring to a boil. In shaker, put arrowroot flour then add water, shake well. Add to pan drippings. Stir in garlic. Keep warm to serve.

Candied Sweet Potatoes

5 medium to large sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into chunks
1/4 cup of water
1/2 cup of honey
3 Tbsp of butter
Dash of sea salt
1/4 tsp of cinnamon

In a saucepan, combine honey, water, butter salt and cinnamon. Simmer together 3 to 4 minutes. Place sweet potatoes into buttered baking dish. Pour syrup over potatoes. Bake in a preheated oven at 400 degrees F. for approximately 20 minutes or until potatoes are soft.

Lemon Garlic Snow Peas and Carrots with Almonds

12 oz of snow peas, washed, trimmed and halved diagonally
1/2 cup of slivered carrots
1/3 cup of slivered raw almonds
3 Tbsp of olive oil
2 Tbsp of fresh lemon juice
1/8 tsp of sea salt
1/8 tsp of white pepper
1 Tbsp fresh tarragon

Heat oil in a stir fry pan, sauté vegetables and almonds until soft. Add lemon juice, tarragon, salt and pepper. Serve hot.

Winter Salad Bowl (Hint: cook vegetables the day before)

1/2 cup of cooked beets, cut into strips
1/2 cup of steamed green beans
1/2 cup cooked carrots sliced

1/2 cup of lentils or dried peas, cooked
1 head of romaine lettuce, broken into bite sized pieces

Vinaigrette Dressing

3 Tbsp of balsamic vinegar
1 tsp maple syrup
1/2 cup olive oil

In a screw-top jar, shake the vinegar and maple syrup together until combined. Add the oil and shake until thoroughly mixed.

Marinate vegetables except lettuce in a bowl for 1/2 hour. When ready to serve, add the lettuce and lightly toss with vegetables.

Gingerbread Cake

1 cup of spelt flour
1/2 cup of whole wheat flour
1/2 cup of sour cream
1/3 cup of butter
1/2 cup of honey
1/2 cup of molasses
1 egg, not beaten
1 tsp of ginger
1 tsp of baking soda

Mix very lightly and bake in preheated oven at 375 degrees F. for 20 minute in a 9 X 13 baking pan.

Tofu Spice Cookies

1 1/2 cup of spelt flour
1/2 cup of honey
3/4 cup of raisins
1/2 pound of tofu
1/4 cup chopped dates
1 egg
1/2 cup chopped nuts
1/2 cup of canola oil
1/2 tsp baking soda
1 tsp ground ginger
1 tsp vanilla
1 tsp ground cinnamon
1 tsp of nutmeg
1 tsp sea salt

Mix flour, raisins, dates, nuts and baking soda. In a blender, blend remaining ingredients. Mix wet and dry ingredients together. Drop by teaspoon onto greased cookie sheet. Bake at 400 degrees F. 10 -15 minutes.

Enjoy!

Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year from Susan and David at the "Wellness Natural Health Centre", Calabogie ON.

End

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GREATER MADAWASKA LITERARY MATTERS

By Mary-Joan Hale

I've been brainstorming the word passage. Rites of passage; emigrants' passage on the ships leaving Ireland during the famine; passages in a book; passage of a loved one over the bar. After a long happy life my father-in-law made his passage. We sent him off in great style with music, stories, laughter and a few tears. Most of his friends, his parents, brother, sister, a granddaughter and his beloved Mary had already made their passages before him. However another thought came to mind. His children have made their passage. They are now the older generation, in some cultures, the elders. I watched the cousins of two generations laughing and remembering together and another generation beginning. Liam, born in July, will soon be followed by a little girl and our grandchild (gender preferably unknown at this time) in the New Year. Thus the passage of time!

Our dear editor has reminded me of another passage...my deadline!

Services are continually increasing @your library. We are now wireless. Now you can surf on your laptop in the library or from the comfort of your car in the parking lot. Until we make a few adjustments, it is better to be

close to the building for the best signal. So, in addition to our six on-line stations, we can accommodate more patrons. We are experiencing more use of our computer equipment. Come in and join the fun. If surfing after hours, an email sent to mjhale@bellnet.ca noting the time spent on-line would help us with our monthly statistics.

Teri and I are making a real effort to get more books on the shelves before year-end. There is a backlog and we do not want to start 2008 with that hanging over our heads. We have done a good weed and the Christmas Book Sale is underway. We are donating some of the Easy Reader, Junior and Young People's fiction to YAC. We hope that after sampling some of the materials there, they will move on down the road to borrow some from the Library.

A new batch of DVDs will be arriving November 27. Watch the Website for titles. We do have a good selection of children's VHS tapes and will be adding DVDs of our own as well. Audio books on CD will be gracing our shelves shortly.

One of our volunteers has offered her services to shut-ins, seniors with limited financial resources and others who have trouble understanding and filing

their income taxes. This is not meant for everyone, but for those unable to afford an accountant. Please contact the library. Drop off a note in a sealed envelope requesting the service. Address the envelope to "Income tax service". I will pass the sealed envelopes to the volunteer. Drop them in the Return box or send them in the courier if you live in Wards two and three. Since the envelopes are sealed, I will not know who is submitting and the volunteer will respect confidentiality etiquette.

Our First 'Seed Money' Fundraiser was a success. Ten patrons made stones. Seeds and handcrafted cards were sold. We still have a wide assortment of place cards for sale. These are made with dried flowers and leaves. The Christmas ones are exquisite. You need them for your dinner tables and you will be helping the Library Building Fund. You might also want to buy one of her beautiful bookmarks to put in those stockings.

We remind the folks in Wards 2 and 3 to order books and other materials from the library. Gary Guilmette makes a weekly trek to the three venues to deliver and pick up the materials. If you have posters for an event in your area, stick it in the courier bag and we will post it for you.

Christmas is coming. The geese are getting fat. Please put some food in the Library basket. It may not rhyme like the old saying, but we really need food for the Food Bank. The three churches in Calabogie meet twice a month to provide food for those in need. Bring in some food and no fine will be charged for overdues. You do not need to have an overdue to donate!

Once again the Mitten Tree is gracing our library. So far there are only two pairs of mitts. Hats, scarves and mittens will keep children warm this winter. You have always been more than generous in the past. Any donations after December 15 will be distributed to the two local schools. The CHEO Loonies and Toonies campaign is still under way. Any spare change will be added to the fund. At \$500, we will send them a cheque.

Merry Christmas. If you will be celebrating Hanukkah, Kwanza or Diwali, may you also enjoy your feasts. All the best in 2008. The Library will be 30 years old and we will be planning some surprises. Watch the Website for updates and keep smiling, it takes fewer muscles than frowning!

End

GRIFFITH & MATAWACHAN FISH AND GAME CLUB



The Fish and Game Club is seeking interest in two courses that will be scheduled for early in early 2008.

The Canadian Firearms Safety Course: Needed to apply for a Possession and Acquisition Licence, which allows you to buy and possess a firearm and ammunition.

This course will run on Friday from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and continue on the Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. An exam is included with the course.

The Hunter Safety Course: New hunters of all ages must take hunter education training and pass an exam before they can purchase their first hunting licence. This course will run on Saturday from 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and continue on the Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. An exam is included with the course.

Children 12 to 16 years can take the Hunter Safety course for free if a parent is a member of the Griffith and Matawachan Fish and Game Club.

For more information or to express your interest in taking one or both of these courses, please call Peter Bourdon at 613-333-1909. The course(s) will take place in Matawachan at a date early in 2008, yet to be established. The Club needs your feedback!

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Closed Christmas Day Store's Open, Restaurant closed Boxing Day

Full Service during power outages

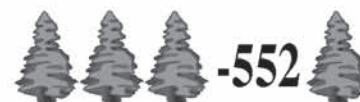
Home cooked Meals

Home Baking

Lotto Machine

Ice

Crafts



-552

333-5523

Gas & Diesel

ATM

Hwy 41 in Griffith Groceries

Pine Valley

White Pine

By Floris Wood

It is difficult to imagine what the Madawaska Valley looked like 200 years ago before the great trees were harvested. The Ministry of Natural Resources estimates that virgin stands of White pine alone in Ontario contained an estimated 3.4 billion m³ of lumber. I cannot even begin to imagine what that would have looked like, though I would love to have seen it. Our present forests, beautiful as they are, must seem rather puny compared to the great stands of original conifers, oak and maple, some standing over 160 feet tall and some over 400 years old. As some of the stories appearing here in the Highlander, told by elderly men about the lumber era attest to, the harvesting of these trees provided good work for hundreds of lumberjacks, including my great uncle, Captain Paul Leach (Captain was his name, not a rank. His brothers were Colonel L and Major Floris Leach. Major, or Mage, was my grandfather). No doubt some of those logs came from this area. The trees provided the wood for the construction of the infrastructure of this great nation.

And the legacy continues today on a large and small scale. Recently a group of people up in Matawatchan bought an old wood mill that needed a little refurbishing. One of them took some logs off his own place; milled the logs into lumber and built a 20 by 16 foot shed now used to protect a 1949 Case tractor he bought to help haul more wood out of the bush.

While their resourcefulness might outreach most of us, the fact remains that we all depend upon wood for much of our building and many other needs. Therefore, I'm going to write about one of the kinds of wood we all depend upon . . . the pines. It was the pines, especially the giant White pines, which towered above all other trees in the great Eastern Canadian forestscape as depicted in some paintings of the Group of Seven artists.

The 110 species of pines comprise the genus pinus. The genus pinus is part of the family pinaceae which also includes spruces and firs. Other conifers that are not part of the pines genus are hemlocks, cedars, junipers, larches, yews,



kauris, cypresses and redwoods. Pines make up the largest genus of conifers.

The Madawaska valley contains several species of pine. The three major species are the White pine, the Red pine and the Jack pine. Others, less numerous pines, are the Mugo pine, Scots pine and the Austrian Pine. We'll concentrate on the Eastern White pine, which is more commonly known as just the White pine.

The Eastern White pine (*Pinus strobes*) is most distinguished by its size and its long, soft needles in clusters or fascicles of five. This clustering of five needles is important since it is a sure way to differentiate it from the Red pine with which it is sometimes confused. Remembering that the White pine and the Red pine both have as many needles in a cluster as there are letters in their respective names, helps beginners differentiate the two similar species. White pine needles range from 7.5 - 12.5 cm (3 - 5 in) in length and are coloured a bluish green.

The softness of the needles makes the White pine one of the easiest pines to handle and, some think, the needles make a good tea. Besides timber the White pines provide us with pulp, tar, and turpentine. The great White pines were once highly prized by the British Royal navy as masts for its sailing warships. Today its soft wood, which has a very even grain, is used mostly for doors, frames, moldings, siding, paneling, cabinetry, White pine log homes, etc. Although used extensively as firewood, pine is less efficient and produces more creosote than the hardwoods.

Continued on page 18

Dispatches from the South Seas

By Rick and Jane Baxter

Shortly after our return to Noumea, we took a week-end day trip with friends to Ilot Tenia. Ilot Tenia is the largest coral island around Noumea and is located about an hour and a half's drive north of Noumea. We drove to a very small village called Bout d'Brosse located on the edge of a deep, wide bay on the eastern coast of New Caledonia. About ten of us then all loaded into a zodiac boat for the 30 minute ride out of the bay to Ilot Tenia located in the lagoon, between the coral reef and the mainland. The weather was typical for September, 25-30 degrees, bright sun and a clear blue sky.

The boat owner has the rights to the best beach on the island and had built some wooden shelters with picnic tables and fresh water showers. There, we unloaded our picnic lunch and cold drinks. We then got our snorkelling gear ready and piled into the boat again. I didn't feel like snorkelling (some said I was afraid) so I asked the owner if he would mind if I stayed in the boat with him. We went to the inside edge of the reef. The currents were strong and the roar of the surf crashing over the reef was frightening. Rick and the others were advised to stay with the guides while snorkelling to avoid getting too close to the reef where you would be torn to shreds by the sharp coral. How-


ever, once in the water, the colours of the coral and variety of fish were apparently outstanding. Rick said that the water is so warm and inviting that you forget where you are. The boat owner keeps the outboard motors going to keep the currents from drifting the boat too close to the reef and to keep an eye on the location of the snorkellers. When you do come up to look around, you always look for the boat as a means of security and escape. I opted to stay on board in case something happened and the insurance company needed someone to pay the benefits to. As the last snorkeller went overboard, the boat owner said to me in passing how many sharks there were in this area. Rick said to me just before we started out that he hoped there weren't any sharks out there! The owner of the boat said he would keep watch for sharks but all he did was talk to me - I was the one watching for sharks. He tried to assure me that sharks had a bad rap but I was still worried. Anyway, a shark was sighted, along with a large turtle, an eel and lots of coral and smaller, colourful fish. When we got back to the island, everyone, even me, went snorkelling closer to shore and it was indeed wonderful and it was a good day trip as we came home tired and sunburned.

In mid-October Rick was instructing a two week course on project team management to the staff at the Vanuatu National Statistics Office in Port



Rick and Jane Baxter in paradise

continued on page 18



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Mike Labelle & Heather Kennedy
 - Sales representatives

**Calabogie Real Estate Trends are increasing.
 Here are your 6 Year to Date Market Trends.**

In 2002 a total of 25 Properties were sold with a gross sale of \$3,912,200.00, with an average sale of a home being \$156,488.00.

In 2003 a total of 25 properties were sold with a gross sale of \$4,120,900.00, with an average sale of a home being \$164,836.00. This shows an increase of 10.5% from 2002.

In 2004 a total of 28 properties were sold with a gross sale of \$4,995,200.00, with an average sale of a home being \$178,400.00. This shows an increase of \$10.8% from 2003.

In 2005 a total of 32 properties were sold, with a gross sale of \$6,367,350.00, with an average sale of a home being \$198,979.00. This shows an increase of 11.5% from 2004.

In 2006 a total of 22 properties were sold, with a gross sale of \$4,566,600.00, with an average sale of a home being \$207,572.00. This shows an increase of 10.4% from 2005.

In 2007 a total of 28 properties were sold, with a gross sale of \$5,973,500. with an average rate sale price of \$212,267.00. This shows an increase of 10.2%

Thank you for your support. Mike & Heather



OTTAWA VALLEY CHRISTMAS CROSSWORD

Across

- 1. Plot of land
- 6. Kind of test
- 10. Pricey
- 14. Cement reinforcing rod
- 15. Wander about
- 16. Red muppet
- 17. Give ___ of one's own medicine (2w)
- 18. Items in Santa's pack
- 19. Farm enclosures
- 20. Inuit rock marker
- 22. Jacks
- 24. Left after taxes
- 25. Paul McCartney, for one
- 26. Clean the slate
- 27. Criterion: (abbr.)
- 29. Christmas star flower
- 33. High end name in electronics
- 35. Regretted
- 36. Water, in Paris
- 37. Denbigh wildlife artist
- 41. Provincial rep.
- 44. Hammer head

- 45. Dangles a fish hook
- 48. Sacred lookout site near Calabogie
- 52. Expert
- 53. In lieu of
- 54. Basin
- 56. Belly muscles
- 58. Group of six performers
- 60. World-wide computer link
- 62. Dies ___
- 63. Delhi dress
- 65. Mother-of-pearl
- 66. Badgers
- 67. Actor Guinness
- 68. Go on all fours
- 69. Very much
- 70. Daredevil's delight
- 71. Flocks

Down

- 1. Prepare for a future event
- 2. Embarrassment symptom
- 3. Verge
- 4. Keg

- 5. Lock of hair
- 6. Canadian boxer Gatti
- 7. Falsify
- 8. Wall climber
- 9. Table
- 10. Shove off
- 11. Improve spiritually
- 12. Memory loss
- 13. Muskoka town
- 21. The Tragically ___
- 23. Requisite
- 28. It's in the genes
- 30. The Weavers "Goodnight" song
- 31. Not any, in law
- 32. Salt, in Paris
- 34. Obstruct movement
- 38. An affirmative
- 39. Cognizance
- 40. Hip hop music
- 41. Sicilian port
- 42. Sidelong
- 43. Way back when (2w)
- 46. Santa's 3rd reindeer

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16		
17					18					19		
20					21			22	23			
24				25					26			
	27		28		29		30	31	32			
	33			34			35				36	
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41	42	43		44					45	46	47	
48			49				50	51		52		
53							54		55		56	57
58					59		60			61		
62					63	64				65		
66					67					68		
69					70					71		

- 47. Become more realistic
- 49. Most recent
- 50. Father spirit of Christmas
- 51. Egyptian king, familiarly
- 55. Seat of justice
- 57. Parts of a solution
- 59. Ivan, for one
- 60. Angers
- 61. Almost unique
- 64. Clay, today

BY DOUG BELL
 Answers on page 15

Community Calendar

CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE

GRIFFITH AND MATAWATCHAN

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

Our Lady of Holy Rosary Catholic Church
Griffith: Sat. Mass 7:30 p.m.
Sunday Mass 11:00 a.m.

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

DENBIGH AND VENNACHAR

Vennachar Free Methodist Church
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Tuesdays:
Ladies Bible Study (Bi-Weekly) 1pm
Bible Study (weekly) 7pm
Bible Study (Bi-Weekly) Plevna----7pm
WMI - Monday (monthly)
Third Sunday of every month
New Beginnings, Clar-Mill Hall,
Plevna-----6:30pm
Pioneer Club Thursday in Plevna
(weekly) 6pm

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.
Bible study: Wed. at 7:00 p.m.
Christian 12 Step Recovery Program
every Friday night at 7:00

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

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

Calabogie St. Andrews United Church
1044 Madawaska Dr.
(on the waterfront)
Church Services Sunday Mornings at
8:45 a.m. Communion
1st Sunday of every month.
Bible study every Wednesday evening
7:15 – 9:00

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Calabogie

Calabogie Seniors: Pot Luck dinner
at 4:30 pm followed by meeting,
Community Hall, last Thursday
of each month. All seniors 55+ are
welcome.

Calabogie Women's Institute
meets second Thursday monthly,
7:30 pm. 752-2598 for info;
new members welcome.

Lion's Club Bingo
every Wednesday, 7:15 pm.
Calabogie Community Hall.
Lions Christmas Turkey Bingo,
Community Hall, December 12.
Doors open at 6:30. Bingo at 7:15.
Lunch served.

The Calabogie and Area Ministerial Food Bank
538 Mill Street, Calabogie, 2 days per
month
(2nd and 4th Thursdays) 10:00 am to
12:00 noon.
For emergencies, please call 752-2201.

Calabogie Youth Activity Centre (YAC) Workshop: Dec. 12
Workshop on creating bird feeders
Register at YAC by Dec. 5

Christmas Party and Official Opening of YAC: Dec. 15 – starts at 5 p.m. with
Ribbon cutting at 6 p.m.
Call Sue at 752-0833 for info

Kripalu Yoga
Murphy's Landing
Six week session
Starting Tuesday January 08, 2008 10am
- 11:30am
Call Lou Bennett to register
613-432-3170

Griffith & Matawatchan

Matawatchan Tree Lighting and Christmas Concert
December 8 – 7 p.m. at the Village
Corners
Concert at 8 p.m. at Matawatchan Hall
With a visit from Santa

Lion's Club Bingo
Every second Tuesday at 7:30 pm
October 16 & 30 – Nov. 13 & 27
Christmas Monster Bingo – Dec 11

Two \$500 games – starts at 7:30 p.m.
Community Centre, Griffith, 613- 333-
5523

Lion's Children's' Christmas Party
Dec. 16 – 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Santa will be there with lots of games and
prizes
Lion's Hall in Griffith

New Years Eve Party
Dec. 31 – 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Music by DJ Champagne
Favours supplied and a cash bar open
Turkey dinner will be served at midnight
Everyone is welcome – Tickets \$15

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

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

Denbigh

Diners Club
Dinners are held the first Monday of the
month at the Denbigh Community Hall
at 12 noon. Full Course Meal \$5.00.
Contact Faye Mieske at 333-2784
for information.

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

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

End

Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year



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Fishing with Jim

By Jim Weatherall



As you read this folks, the wife and I will be returning from Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, where we have spent a month.....one of us shopping.....the other fishing on the 2nd Ave. pier, 900 feet out into the Atlantic Ocean.

The weather was great, averaging high 70's most days for the first two weeks, so the winter trout had not arrived yet. We fished for summer trout and whiting. We are using a bottom rig set up that the local bait shop keeps in stock, but I make up my own, using 3oz. bell or pyramid sinkers and a # 6 snell hook, up about 2 feet from the sinker. I baited this with a piece of cut mullet (also available at the local bait shop). Cast out and let this sit on bottom and wait for your bite. Size limits vary.....summer trout minimum size is 12 inches with a 10 fish daily limit. Whiting can be any size and no limit on possession. We fill over limit every day.

We connected with a Burnstown couple 'Bob and Sandy' We fed them a trout dinner and they returned the favour by having us for a lovely supper and a great looking apple pie....which I found out was served after we left. I'm sure it tasted as good as it looked. We enjoyed our time with these folks, playing card games, flea markets, yard sales etc.

Today is Nov. 22nd (U.S. Thanksgiving)—Temperature was 70 degrees F. early this a.m. with 25 mph winds. Fishing was far from perfect.....only a few small trout and whiting. I caught a 2 foot long sand shark and helped bring in another shark that was over five feet long. An octopus was also caught tat

weighed about 40 lbs. with tentacles 2 feet long. This catch was thrown back. One of the fishermen brought in a small stingray (also known as a skate) and I helped to retrieve the hook but Ken received a nasty bite on his finger. I guess the skate didn't like me standing on his tail?

Nov. 26th—the weather has changed to cool. The temperature is in high 30s F. during the night and low 60s F during the day. Rain is sporadic. Winter trout have moved in as well as red and black drum. There is a slot size on the drum and a minimum of 14 inches on the winter trout. With these fish we bait with a slip bobber and live shrimp, which again is available at local bait shops.

You can sample some of these fish at our annual fish fry on New Year's Eve by dropping by Jim's Bait and tackle at noon until 3 p.m.

Our holiday is almost over and the store will reopen on Sat. Dec 15th. Looking forward to seeing home but will miss our southern home too. Meeting friends while on holidays sure make for a great time. Thanks B & S, it really was quite a slice.....just not apple pie.

We are not looking forward to snow but will anticipate seeing you out on the ice. Jim

End



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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

THE TOWNSHIP OF
GREATER MADAWASKA

Meetings for December 2007 – Council Chambers, 4984 Calabogie Road, Calabogie

Standing Committees Thursday, December 6th

- FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION 9:00 am
- ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT 11:15 am
- PUBLIC WORKS 12:30 PM
- PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 2:30 pm
- PUBLIC SERVICES 4:30 PM

Committee of the Whole Council Thursday December 13th, 2007 4:00 PM

Council Meeting Tuesday, December 18th, 2007 4:00 PM

Meetings for January 2008 – Council Chambers, 4984 Calabogie Road, Calabogie

No Standing Committee Meetings

Committee of the Whole Council Monday, January 21, 2008 at 4:00pm

Council Meeting Thursday, January 24th, 2008 at 4:00 pm

An Historic Journey (Correction)

Editor's note: The last issue of the Highlander had a few unfortunate omissions. When putting together a paper files are moved around to optimize space and occasionally this results in some articles being truncated or simply lost in the shuffle. An Historic Journey by Jennifer Jimmo was one of these errors. To remedy this we are including a summary of the Historic Journey article with the truncated concluding paragraphs. Our apologies to the author.

Editorial Summary:

This article was about the water flowing through the historic rivers of Eastern Ontario, uranium contamination and the concern of local Algonquin people for the safety of their ancestral lands.

"The Ardoch Algonquin and the Shabot Obaadjiwan First Nations had joined together with several non-native citizen groups to raise public awareness against the exploration and mining of uranium in the Land of the Lakes region in the very heart of eastern Ontario's cottage country. They were organizing a demonstration, "The Rally of the Canoes", which was to be an historic journey by traditional birch-bark canoe, starting from the headwaters of the Mississippi River at Ardoch through to Victoria Island, below Parliament Hill. They would be transporting two maiden water-carriers, accompanied by settler escort canoes, with the term settler given to the non-native supporters involved in the protest. They would be bringing clean and clear water from the Mississippi River to the government and people of the nation's capital, following the same waterway that contaminated (radioactive) waste might follow if the proposed uranium mine site at Robertsville was put into

operation. The carried water was to be poured on the steps of the Parliament Buildings and a written proclamation demanding a Moratorium against Uranium Mining was to be presented to the Governments of Canada and Ontario. It was a powerful symbolic message."

"It is similar to an historic journey taken by the James Bay Cree during the 1980s when they canoed into New York Harbour to lobby the State of New York and the United Nations. Ironically, both historic journeys were concerned with water."

"In the end, even though the presentation of pouring the water from the Mississippi River onto the steps below the Peace Tower was not permitted, the writer notes that the environmental message still found a way to reach the steps despite."

What follows is the missing concluding paragraphs from the article:

"We talked about nature and the environmental matter at stake in this issue. I realized then, looking at the canoe paddle he held, with its handle pointing up to the Peace Tower looming above us and its paddle base connecting with the concrete walk below us, that what made this truly a historic journey was that Mother Earth, despite the obstacles, had found a way to bring a powerful symbolic message to the barricaded steps of the Peace Tower."

"She needs many voices." Harold Perry softly advised, for the benefit of all of us, with the wisdom of an Elder of an ancient First Nation, absolutely in touch with the natural world, throughout time, and proceeding with the historic Ottawa River journey by Samuel de Champlain to the present-day 'Rally of the Canoes' by the Ardoch."

Miigwech.



Ardoch Algonquin Chief Randy Cota (on the left) and Jack LaPointe of Ardoch (on the right). Photo: Jennifer Jimmo

Denbigh checking in (Cont)

from the conflicts and the history. We need to stop for a moment of silence and feel the ground shudder under our feet as the gun fires and hear the lone bugler play in the distance. Thank you to all those who attended, and those who traveled to Denbigh to take part in the ceremony. And to St. Luke's United Church, for the hospitality and lunch provided following the service.

*The New Apostolic Church will hold the annual Community Carol Sing-Along Sunday, Dec. 9th at 4:00pm, with donations to the Food Bank great-

ly appreciated. Then, a Christmas Service will be held Tuesday, Dec. 25th, at 10:30am, a special Closing of the Year Service scheduled for Monday, Dec. 31st at 7:00 pm and a New Year Divine Service on Tuesday, Jan.1st at 10:30am. Please join any or all of these festivities! For additional information please call 333-1033.

*Vennachar Free Methodist Church welcomes you to help celebrate the season with the annual Candle Light service on Christmas Eve at 7pm.

End

*Seasons Greetings and
Warm Wishes to all our
friends and customers
From Denis, & Joanne*

*Please join us again for Christmas goodies
December 24th from 2:00 TO 5:00 p.m.
We have many in-stock items for Christmas*

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THE CHRISTMAS DOLL

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

As a joke my brother used to hang a pair of pantyhose over his fireplace before Christmas. He said all he wanted was for Santa to fill them. What they say about Santa checking the list twice must be true because every Christmas morning, although Jay's kids' stockings were overflowed, his poor pantyhose hung sadly empty.

One year I decided to make his dream come true. I put on sunglasses and went in search of an inflatable love doll. They don't sell those things at Walmart. I had to go to an adult book-

store downtown. If you've never been in an X-rated store, don't go. You'll only confuse yourself. I was there an hour saying things like, "What does this do?" "You're kidding me!" "Who would buy that?" Finally, I made it to the inflatable doll section. I wanted to buy a standard uncomplicated doll that could also substitute as a passenger in my truck so I could use the car pool lane during rush hour. Finding what I wanted was difficult. Love dolls come in many different models. The top of the line, according to the side of the box, could do things I'd only seen in a book on animal husbandry. I settled for

"Lovable Louise." She was at the bottom of the price scale. To call Louise a "doll" took a huge leap of imagination.

On Christmas Eve, with the help of an old bicycle pump, Louise came to life. My sister-in-law was in on the plan and let me in during the wee morning hours, long after Santa had come and gone. I filled the dangling pantyhose with Louise's pliant legs and bottom. I also ate some cookies and drank what remained of a glass of milk on a nearby tray. I went home, and giggled for a couple of hours.

The next morning my brother called to say that Santa had been to his house

and left a present that made him VERY happy but had left the dog confused. She would bark, start to walk away, then come back and bark some more. We all agreed that Louise should remain in her pantyhose so the rest of the family could admire her when they came over for the traditional Christmas dinner.

My grandmother noticed Louise the moment she walked into the door. "What the hell is that?" she asked. My brother quickly explained, "It's a doll." "Who would play with something like that?" Granny snapped. I had several candidates in mind, but kept my mouth shut. "Where are her clothes?" Granny continued. "Boy, that turkey smells nice, Gran," Jay said, trying to steer her into the dining room. But Granny was relentless. "Why doesn't she have any teeth?" Again, I could have answered, but why would I? It was Christmas and no one wanted to ride in the back of the ambulance saying, "Hang on Granny! Hang on!"

My grandfather, a delightful old man with poor eyesight, sidled up to me and said, "Hey, who's the naked gal by the fireplace?" I told him she was Jay's friend. In a few minutes I noticed Grandpa had sidled up to the fireplace and was talking to Louise. Not just talking, but actually flirting. It was then that we realized this might be Grandpa's last Christmas at home.

The dinner went well. We made the usual small talk about who had died, who was dying, and who should be killed, when suddenly Louise made a noise that sounded a lot like my father in the bathroom in the morning. Then she lurched from the pantyhose, flew around the room twice and fell in a heap in front of the sofa. The cat screamed. I passed cranberry sauce through my nose and Grandpa ran across the room, fell to his knees, and began administering mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. My brother fell back over his chair and wet his pants and Granny threw down her napkin, stomped out of the room and sat in the car.

It was indeed a Christmas to treasure and remember. Later, in my brother's garage we conducted a thorough examination to decide the cause of Louise's collapse. We discovered that Louise had suffered from a hot ember to the back of her right thigh. Fortunately, thanks to a wonder drug called duct tape, we restored her to perfect health and Louise went on to star in many more Christmases.

End

Did you know that the other side of 'freedom of speech' is knowing when to keep your mouth shut?"

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Dispatches (Cont)

Vila. It is a short one hour plane ride from Noumea. We had spent the previous Christmas holiday in Vanuatu, and I loved it, so I tagged along for this trip. As Australian and New Zealand school holidays had just finished, we lucked into a very nicely appointed resort accommodations overlooking the lagoon. Friendly local women provided a daily maid service to make the bed and wash the dishes, and, they even did the laundry. The brochure in the room noted that the owner's perspective was, "Who wants to do laundry on vacation?". Who am I to disagree with the Vanuatian cultural practices? Outside were a wide variety of colourful hibiscus trees and tropical flowers with several papaya and coconut trees on the property. We even had a swimming pool to ourselves so it was great. Little did we know that a typhoon was in the neighbourhood and it rained continuously the first weekend we were there, from Friday right through until Monday. No wonder it's so lush there as the rain came down in buckets but because it's hot, you don't seem to mind it. Thankfully, the thoughtful owners left us an umbrella.

One day I walked to the well stocked supermarket, Au bon Marche, and when I was heading home, it started pouring, so I hailed a bus. The buses in Vanuatu are like no other. Most of them are old vans or mini-buses and you know they are buses because they have a "B" on the license plate. You can wave them down and for 100 Vatu (about \$1 Canadian) they will take you wherever you want to go. Depending on who else is already in the bus, it may not be a direct route so it is an opportunity to see many parts of the town.

Now, if any of you wonder whatever happened to Bob Marley, I can tell you that he is alive and well and currently drives a mini bus in Port Vila, Vanuatu.

The bus I hailed down that day was in a bad state and had pictures of Bob Marley painted on the sides. Since I was drenched I took it anyway. As I climbed in, I noted there was a Bob Marley look alike sitting in the back and, lo and behold, two more sitting in the front. When I looked on the ceiling of the van there was a poster of Bob Marley. In spite of the heat and humidity, they also wear toques with the colours of the Vanuatu flag, which just happens to be the same colours as Bob's native flag in Ethiopia. We hit the road and the Bob Marley tunes were cranked up loud, loud, loud and my three companions were singing at the top of their lungs. What could I do but join in, thinking, "if my friends could see me now!". The Marley brothers were very nice and I will always think of that bus ride when I hear reggae music.

On Friday evening we went to a village for some Vanuatian traditional dancing and food. The male villagers greet you in traditional grass skirts and head-dresses and we were welcomed to the village by a man announcing our arrival by blowing into a conch shell. Since it was pitch black, the pathways through the jungle to the meeting area were lit with torches. Once there, the fierce looking men performed dances while threatening the interloping vacationers with spears and sang traditional songs. It was exciting and wonderful. Some of it reminded me of our Canadian native dances. We were then ushered into a covered traditional fare, pronounced far-eh, (an open sided area with a thatched roof) where we were served delicious Vanuatian food – fish or chicken baked in crushed coconut and wrapped in banana leaves (lap-lap), tapioca patties, boiled bananas, chicken, pork and lots of starchy root vegetables (taro and yams). As we were guests of the village, we were treated to a drink of kava. Kava is the preferred drink of the South Pacific but *the Vanuatian* kava is supposed to be the best. It

Continued on page 20

White Pines (cont)

Some other White pine characteristics is that they grow fast (up to two feet a year) so they are serve as a quick wind screen for houses built in open areas. The average White pine grows to a height of 15-24 m (50-80 ft.) and will cover a circle of ground from 6 – 13 m (20-40 ft.) in diameter. However, size varies greatly with some trees growing taller than 50 m (160 ft.) especially in the southern parts of its range. This majestic height makes them the tallest tree in the eastern part of North America. Typically a large White pine will measure in circumference in the 3.0 to 3.7 m (10-12 ft) range.

Because of their fast growth people frequently plant temporary white pines on the windward side of the house to protect the house from wind, and, at the same time, plant slower growing, permanent trees on the leeward side of the pines. Another characteristic of White pines is their adaptability to all kinds of soil conditions. Their preferred condition is well drained, but fertile soil but they will grow many more places and only slightly less well. They tolerate air pollution or road salt not well at all, so they make poor snow fences along roads. They have difficulty surviving in smoggy cities.

Early in the 1800s loggers cleared much of the land in the Madawaska valley, which was then populated with a rich mixture of both conifers and hardwoods. Farmers then took over some the land, removing stumps and further clearing the land. Much of the land, with it thin soil and outcroppings of granite and marble bedrock, was not very suitable for farming to begin with, clearing it dried it out and rain leached off the nutrients. Many of these farms were abandoned after several years of hardscrabble farming.

The progression of natural forests that



preceded these farmers was from conifers to hardwoods. In attempting to restore the farm land back to a forest of mixed conifers and deciduous trees the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources tries to imitate the natural progression of conifer to hardwood, rather than planting hardwoods without the protection of nearly mature conifers. The OMNR has created some incentives for the reforestation of some of these lands with White and Red pines leading the way as excellent starter trees in these reforestation projects. Their fast growth rates allow them to quickly cover and protect the ground around them. Fallen needles provide enrichment for the soil. The trees themselves provide habitat and food for many species of animals. Periodic thinning provides some sunlight for the reintroduction of new hardwood species whose seeds are introduced into the pine plantation by wind and animals. An excellent MNR website describing the process of reforestation beginning with Red and White pine is located at the following URL: http://www.mnr.on.ca?mnr/forests/extension_notes/pdf/cnfr.pdf Another good website about white pine plantations is: <http://www.lrconline.com/>. Look for their extension notes. I would give you the exact location but when I copy and paste it into my URL address locator it freezes up my computer. I'll try to spare you that.

White pines are susceptible to two major pests. White Pine Blister rust, a bark disease, ultimately kills the tree. This disease so devastated parts of the Quebec forests earlier in the last century as to render the species nearly useless commercially. However, new forest management techniques have diminished the risk of this disease, but it still remains a major threat.

White pine weevils attack the young top of the tree, eventually killing just that part and leaving the tree badly disfigured. These weevils feed on the last

Continued on page 20

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Musings (Cont.)

these hardy woodsmen cutting and skidding logs to the river's shores to await the spring run off. The broad mixture of these men unknowingly developed a rich dialect. Partly Gaelic, Polish, Native and French all influencing the "Valley" dialect, vocabulary and accent.

We can travel the same waterways as those great river men of yesterday and the French explorers before them. It is known that Champlain travelled these parts in the early 1600's. Etienne Brule, the first courier de bois with his native friends paddled the Bonnechere ("faire bonne cher" means to make good cheer), which quite possibly also describes the Madawaska.

Both the names of Madawaska and Matawatchan may be derived from the name of a tribe met by Brule and Champlain. They called it Mataouaachita. Calabogie is from a Gaelic description "calladh bogaidh" which means "marshy shore", but no one seems to know what the expression "from Calabogie and she shook her wooden leg" refers to. Much later Col. Griffith a commander at Balaclava, site of a major battle during the Crimean War left two village names to our valley. It seems our Vennachar comes from Loch Vennachar and Denbigh from Denbigh Castle in North Wales.

Our portion of the ancient Canadian Shield still offers spectacular scen-

ery and the Madawaska Highlands still depend on logging, along with mixed farming. We still enjoy hunting and fishing as our forefathers did, along these same waterways and in these same hills. It's a special place.

There have been vast changes since those early explorers. We continue to have great numbers migrate to what they all consider to be the finest nation on the planet. More recently they come from the Caribbean, South America, United States, China and the Middle East. Our multiculturalism is a blend in colour, language and cultures. Their characteristics will form part of our heritage.

One of the world's finest authors, Canada's Pierre Berton, once said: "We may not have peace on this globe until we all reach a pleasant beige colour". With your kind permission I would add: "and let's all grow up and get along and not worry about the persons name or the place from which he came. The point is that in fact they do blend ...and like those who came before them ...after one generation they too are proud Canadians. Yes we are ALL immigrants ...and yes we all become proud Canucks!"

End

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Best Wishes for Peace,
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Dispatches (Cont)

isn't alcoholic (so they say), it is just a "relaxant"... and it smells and tastes putrid. We all had to have a cup full and you had to chug it down because if you stopped to taste it you would gag. The villagers clap their hands and sing while you drink it. Our host told us that they drink it, not for it's taste but to relieve that typical malady called stress. The local people love it so perhaps, it's worth trying. I think the villagers had been into the kava before we arrived as they were a lot more relaxed than we were! There was much music and dancing afterwards and it was a very pleasant evening.

On the weekend, we took a trip to a small river fed by a series of waterfalls not far from Port Vila. We did not have an opportunity to visit this site during our earlier Christmas vacation. Since it was only raining a little bit, and not likely to stop, we decided to make it our day trip. Our guide led us along the trail up the river to some wonderful scenic spots, pointing out medicinal plants and leaves along the way. Because of the limited medical supplies and treatments, many local Vanuatans still use these plants and their derivatives as cures: the leaves from one tree apparently are highly sought after as a cure for cancer; the juice from another was used to induce abortions, etc.

Because it had been raining so much, the trek to the waterfall was very muddy and slippery and we walked in the river where we could. At some points there were ropes beside the river for you to hold onto so you wouldn't lose your footing in the fast moving waters. Our guide told us that about five years ago there was an earthquake so strong that it changed the scenery around the highest waterfall quite a bit. He said that before the quake, you could actually make your way in be-

hind the fall and sit in a pool and watch the falling water. It was hard to believe as there was so much moss and vegetation in that area you would have thought it had been like that for many years. The water was cool and had a slightly milky colour, apparently due to its dissolving the soft limestone over which it flows on its way to the sea. It was a great day trip and the pictures don't do it justice.

From the waterfall, we took a short bus ride (not with Bob Marley this time) to the free 10 minute ferry ride to Hide-away Island. Although the ferry is free, it costs 1000 Vatu (\$10) to get on to the island to use their beaches. Besides the beaches and snorkelling, the major attraction is the world's only underwater post office – don't you wonder who thinks this stuff up? Anyway, Rick dove down and saw it and there was a nice postal clerk there in the kiosk ready to take your letter! And, there are no line-ups or waiting like at Canada Post. Talk about unusual day jobs! At least you don't have to lick the stamp in an underwater post office.

Rick has quite a bit of travelling ahead of him. He is now in Guam but will be on his way to the Republic of the Marshall Islands next week. This is a gruelling trip as you have to fly 9 hours to Tokyo first and then back down 3.5 hours to Guam. Guam is a US territory and the Marshalls Islands are a self-governing democracy in free association with the US. In December, he has a census information technology conference to go to in Bangkok and I will be going with him there. Then, for a week at Christmas, we plan to head to Sydney for the holidays. Where has the past year gone? No doubt, our next newsletter will fill you in on these travels.

Rick and Jane

End

OUT ON THE FIRST CONCESSION

By Wes Bomhower

There's music in the kettle

We attended Sunday School and church quite regularly when I was young and I even won a prize, a Mister Peanut book for the best attendance the year of my fifth birthday, even though two Sundays were lost due to a terrible gash on my left leg sustained by jumping over the milk pails with my sister Wilma; a story which I told you in an earlier issue.

The minister of our congregation, Reverend Irvin, would drop around to the farm for a visit now and then. He was

the kind of man who was interested in everything, be it cattle, dogs, cats, children and whatever, and he asked a lot of questions. He came around one day just as Dad was herding the milk cows back into the stable after their daily drink of water down at the spring. No water installed in the barn yet. The Reverend, standing beside me, asked me if Dad had a name for all twenty or so cows and young cattle which were filing past us into the cow stable.

Yes indeed, I volunteered eagerly, Dad had a name for every one of them and most of their names, I went on to explain, were derived from some physical attribute a certain cow possessed or even their colouring. I began naming them as they went by.

White Pine (Cont)

years growth of a white pine by puncturing holes in the soft new tissue. The female weevil then lays eggs in the holes, which form a circle, girdling the branch. The larvae tunnel into the stem, killing it. When the White pine is growing in the shade the weevil cannot damage the tree because the tree's resin flows into the weevils feeding hole and kills any eggs lain there. So White Pine weevil is found overwhelmingly when the trees are in sunny spots. White pine trees grown in a stand fare far better than isolated trees. They tend to resist White Pine weevil better and the competition with other trees for sunlight tends to make them grow taller and straighter.

As global warming heats up the earth, pests, like the Pine Bark Beetle, are less subject to winter kill in more southerly climates, and tens of thousands of pine, including White pines, are dying as a result. In addition to these and other pests

the longevity of a tree depends much on its soil, atmospheric and weather conditions, and avoiding the chain saw.

The Eastern White pine is the provincial tree of Ontario as well as the state tree of both Maine and Michigan. The natural range of the Eastern White pine is, as you might have guessed, Eastern North America. The northern part of its range stretches from Newfoundland to south-eastern Manitoba. Extreme northern Georgia is as far south as they go naturally. However, they have been imported into other areas as cultivars.

These magnificent trees look so humble when they are young. Nobody could guess they could grow to such majestic heights and to such an old age. The picture in our minds of the Madawaska Valley and, indeed most eastern North American forests, would be far different if we did not have these giants dominating the landscape.

End

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There's Lump Jaw and Lump Jaw's mate, there's Black Eye and One Eye and One Eye's Young One, there's Three Teat and Three Teat's calf, there's White Ass and White Ass's old Mother and so on down the line until they were all named and in the stable. I noticed the Reverend place a hand over his mouth to try to hide a smile, I remember wondering at the time if it had anything to do with the names I had just rattled off. Later that evening, I told Dad how I Had named off all the cows for Reverend Irvin, and it was Dad's turn to smile, though Mom thought it was not funny at all and gave Dad a sharp reprimand for naming the cattle with such vulgar names. Dad just smiled and said nothing.

Christmas soon rolled around that year and time for the annual Sunday School concert again. We all had our different parts to play in the concert and my effort was to sing a little song, with Reverend Irvin's wife playing piano for me. We practised a few times that afternoon for the evening performance

and I thought I knew the words quite well.

I had not allowed for stage fright however, and that evening as the curtain went up, two hundred people were seated there looking at me. I was petrified. Mrs. Irvin played the lead about three times and I still couldn't find my voice. She stopped playing and turned her head in my direction. Well! Now that I had no music, the words suddenly came to me, so I shouted at the top of my lungs:

There's music in the kettle,
There's music in the spout,
There's music in me
But I can't get it out.

Then I ran off the stage into the wings where my older sister Joyce was waiting for me, but from the sound of the applause, I figured my shouting had gone over quite well.

Ah, times indeed have changed.

End

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CABA CORNER

By Shelley Monaghan

Where does this amazing woman live?

Well, she actually lives right here in Calabogie! One of CABA's newest members lives here on Tatty Hill Rd. and she is the feature new member of this month's article.

Why is she so amazing...well, let me first describe her to you....She is unique, quirky, meditative, and humorous and is fully at one with the universe.

Sounds quite heady, doesn't it.

Laura Bevington is a Natural Health Practitioner who owns, runs and believes in, "Journey of the Spirit." She does a lot of energy work and you really have to meet her and spend some time with her to fully appreciate that she is not your average run of the mill Health Practitioner!

Her home studio is on the main floor of her beautiful Scandinavian Log Home at 284 Tatty Hill Rd. When you walk in to this relaxing room you immediately feel peaceful and at ease. Her mannerisms are very calming and calculated. She thinks before she speaks and is very wise and informative.

Laura believes that there is an emotional connection to all ailments. Her goal with her clients is to relieve stresses and take you on a journey to health, both in mind & spirit.

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Following that, you can schedule subsequent visits of 1 hour & 15 minutes to follow thru on your plan, relax, tune-up or detoxify.

Laura moved to the area from Carp approximately two years ago, has four grown sons and a daughter and is proud of her family's harmonious nature. She also gives a great deal of credit to her wonderful husband, Doug, whom she says is a great guy, who is lots of fun and that the two of them have a very close relationship.

Laura loves to garden, and do interior painting, reads a great deal and is actually a little shy! She loves to care for others and does not like the spotlight to be on herself.

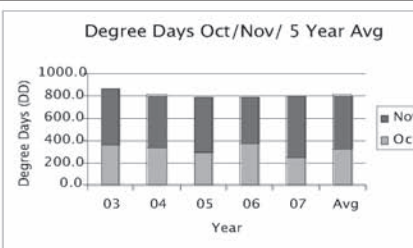
Interested people who would like to find out what Laura can offer in more detail, should call her at 613-752-1495 I for one, am definitely going back!

End

THANK YOU – MCKINNON

We would like to thank everyone for their support and comfort during Bud's illness and passing. A special thanks to Dr. DiPaulo and the 2nd floor staff at Renfrew Victoria Hospital for their care and compassion. A big thank you to all who visited Bud and to Betty, Judi, Glenna, Gail and Garnet for being there when we needed you most. Thank you to Rev. Ross Davis for officiating at the beautiful service and Rebecca Hartman and Pat Ferguson for the lovely music. Our appreciation to the Denbigh Griffith Lions Club for the moving service Fri. evening and the reception at the hall. Words cannot express how touched we were by the time and care you took to set up the hall and provide all that delicious food. To all the friends who brought food, flowers and sent cards and donations, we thank you.

Mary, David and family



Year	Degree Days	
	Oct	Nov
03	362.1	505.4
04	334.9	477.5
05	292.5	501.1
06	369.2	425.4
07	244.9	557.6
Avg	320.7	493.4

Warmest October over the past 5 years. If you thought November was cold you were right. Coldest November in the past 5 years. Funny how things work out, the first 2 months of this heating season are on about average. I'd keep the wood dry though.

Postcast for Matawatchan

'Twas a Couple of Nights Before Christmas (or Cottage Corner Sells Out)

By John Roxon

'Twas a couple of nights before
Christmas, when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring, not even a
mouse

The traps were all set by the chimney
with care
Purchased on sale at Calabogie Home
Hardware.

The stockings were hung on a fire-
place from Pete & Lou's
And the children feigned sleep, hoping
to succeed in their ruse
Dear papa hung his sock on the garage
door from Gary's
And after a couple of ciders, could
swear he saw fairies.

The children were nestled, all snug in
their old beds
New ones from Sleepy Cedars were
still in the shed.
And mamma in her kerchief and I in
my cap
The silence was disturbed by the drip
of a tap.

A call to Sue at Griffith Building Sup-
plies
And we had a new faucet on the first
try;
When out on the lawn there arose such
a clatter
The animals had gotten into our Pine
Valley platter.

Away to the window I flew like a flash
Tore open the shutters and then a big
splash
A part of the pane fell to a puddle
below
Lacourse Carpentry promised our win-
dows they would bestow.

The lighting on the breast of fresh
fallen snow
Gave the luster of mid-day to objects
below
The way to the highlands, Santa could
see
With abundant electricity from OPG.

When what to my wondering eyes
should appear
But a miniature sleigh and eight tiny
reindeer
I just know that Santa would get here
yet
I received his email message through
Xplornet.

The magic sleigh got closer then I
heard a thud on the roof
Which no doubt left damage, from a
reindeer hoof
Kelly Homes would be quick to fix
such a hole
And Santa will deny that he had any
role.

The sleigh on the roof with the runner
thus cracked

And Santa, forlorn, as he searches his
sack
Floyd Enterprises can fix what ails the
sleigh
I tell a beaming Santa as he offers to
pay.

Oh No, will Christmas be delayed by
a day or week
As Santa starts to look, for it's lodging
he seeks
The Swiss Inn is chosen to rest his
head
While Glen Country Car Sales tows
his sled.

With this unscheduled stop in the
beauty of the highlands
St. Nick thinks of a pint at a den they
call Mulligan's
He couldn't forget his reindeer and
their particular needs
And arranged to get food and blankets
from M&R Feeds.

With the morn fast approaching and
his sleigh being fixed
He added to his sack; from Snider's
Tent & Trailer, some candy mix
His sleigh was creaky from rust and
without any tools
Santa decided on lubricants from Mc-
Donald Fuels.

In addition to a runner and some oil on
the old cart
Steve Flynn's Carpet & Upholstery,
would make it real sharp
Santa looked over his list with an eye
like a razor
And noticed long coats and ammo
from Glaeser's

Finally one more day and St. Nick
would be off
But first some lozenges from Mun-
ford's to ease his nasty cough
The stress of the breakdown made
Santa tired and sore
But the good folks at Wellness, mas-
saged him to the core

In addition to this, teas from Pura Vida
and Kripalu too
Put a smile on his face and made him
feel brand new
Santa picked up a Highlander at 41
Stop
For ideas on where he could find ski
passes, artwork and a spinning top.

The new rails gleam and the uphol-
stery is stitched
At last the sleigh is ready and the rein-
deer are hitched
He counted only seven, but this was
not new
Donder was found lounging in a sun-
room by Proview

Continued on next page



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Reverend Joseph Legree Retires

By Garry Ferguson

After more than 50 years in the priesthood, Father Joseph Legree recently celebrated his last mass in Griffith as an active Parish Priest. At 77 years of age, he has taken a well-earned retirement. However, since there is no one to replace him, he intends to make the trip from his new home in Douglas each Sunday to act as a Visiting Priest in order to keep the doors of St. Joseph's Church in Esmonde and Our Lady Of The Holy Rosary Church in Griffith open.

Though raised in Douglas, Father Joseph Legree came from one of Balvenie's pioneer families. His grandparents Venus and Anne (Kerrigan) Legree moved their family from Springtown to the Legree homestead at Balvenie in 1875. As a young man, their son Austin went to work in the shanties but ended up in Douglas where he found mill work. Along the way he picked up the blacksmith trade and eventually opened a shop. In 1911 Austin Legree married Mary Ellen Coughlin of Brudenell and in 1920 they bought the house in Douglas still known as the Legree House. The family had two children, a girl, who died when one week old in 1917 and a son Joseph born on August 20, 1930.

From 1936 to 1948, young Joseph Legree was educated to grade 12 in Douglas then moved to St Patrick's College in Ottawa for his grade 13. He stayed on at the College for further education and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in June of 1952. In 1956 he received a Bachelor of Theology from the University of Montreal. That same year, the newly-ordained Reverend Joseph Legree was appointed to the Diocese of Pembroke as an assistant. The road to becoming educated was not always smooth however. While attending the separate school in Douglas, a visiting priest asked what hermits do. "They take a couple of old bags (he really meant grain bags) and go off into a cave to do penance," piped up twelve-year-old Joseph. I believe he's still slightly embarrassed by the reaction to his answer.

His first duties were in Killaloe where he stayed for the summer but moved on to St. Ann's in Mattawa for the next two years. Since that time, he served in 23 additional parishes before moving to Griffith in 1994 to replace Father Thomas Fitzpatrick. In 1972, Father Legree became the official Diocesan Historian and eventually set out to compile a history of the Pembroke Diocese. This was such a huge task that, in 1984, he took three months off from other duties to finish collecting material. By 1986, a book was ready for typing, a task that took



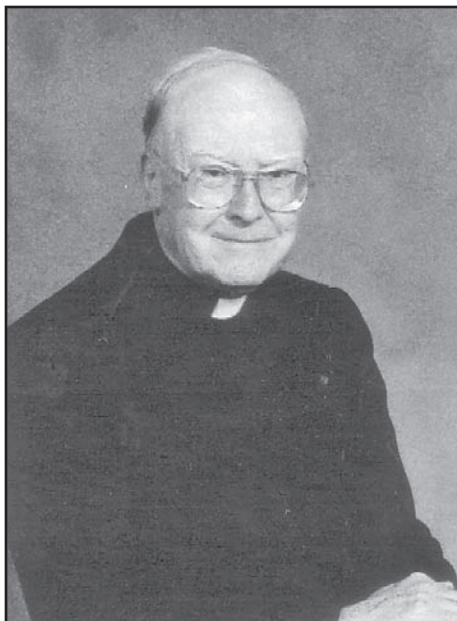
Rev. Joseph Legree during first permanent assignment: Mattawa 1951

five to six months. In 1987, Lift Up Your Hearts, a hard-cover, comprehensive history of every parish in the diocese was finally published.

I asked Father Legree about the most unpleasant and the most pleasant memories of his long career. Having to attend two fresh suicide scenes were the worst without a doubt. The scenes were terribly messy because each man had shot himself in the head. In one case, a twenty-five-year-old had committed the act in the sacristy of the church. Among his most pleasant duties was the administering of first communion to the young folks and participating in their confirmation. He remembers as well, a parish where he persuaded six couples, living common law, to marry. One of the women was so happy to finally snag her man that she had the marriage license framed and nailed to the wall in her kitchen.

I also asked if he had any messages he'd like to send, first to his parishioners and secondly to the wider community. He did not have to ponder either. His first was, "Keep the faith. Don't give up hope." To the community, "Keep on working together for the sake of friendship and a better community."

End



Rev. Joseph Legree during assignment in Griffith: circa 1998

Cottage Corner (Cont)

Before he leaves he has one forgotten wish
To go to Jim's Bait and Tackle so little Jimmy can fish
With the wishes of others in Santa's red sack
He visited the Duck restaurant for one last snack

And a final thing his old brain conjures
Before he leaves Highlands hospitality and says his bonjours
A happy thought to remove his furrowed frown
A visit to the fine merchants and artisans of Burnstown.

And laying his finger aside of his nose
And giving a nod into his sleigh he rose
As the townspeople below wished a good flight
Santa instructed his reindeer, it was quite a sight

Higher and higher his old sleigh doth fly
With all the presents and goodies, he just floated by
And as he soars over the lights of the Calabogie Peaks

He brings the good tidings in which everyone speaks

And when Santa visits you this Christmas 'Eve
With his big sack of toys through the chimney he will heave
Remember the delay that caused such a fright
Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night.

Please feel free to email me with any comments or suggestions for future columns.

On behalf of Cottage Corner, I would like to wish everyone a very safe and happy holiday season. Merry Christmas!!

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