

The Madawaska HIGHLANDER

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Free

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Springtown Reflections: A Study of People and Time

Author: Irene Robillard

Springtown Lament

The commercial glory of Springtown has departed like the tall pines that once reared their heads along the beautiful banks of the Madawaska. The Shantyman's axe no longer rings in the neighbourhood; nor do the shouts of the portageur wake the echoes of the hills between which the waters of the Hidden River flows.

"Springtown is a deserted village, but the modest stone temple, which to the edification and amid the wonderment of all was blest on January 20th, 1854, still keeps guard over the cemetery wherein sleep Springtown's dead, and the bell which received the Sacred Unction on that bright winter's day and delighted the people with its first blessed tones, still sends its voice over the waters to announce the hour of prayer and sacrifice for those yet attached to the once busy spot."
-- His Lordship Bishop Ryan, 1929

As you drive from Burnstown towards Calabogie, you first see a sign saying "SPRINGTOWN"; you round a corner and then catch your breath as the beautiful Madawaska River bends away from the road. At the bend is a lovely grey house and an old barn. On your right you see an old stone church set within a graveyard. You drive farther along, expecting to see the town, but nothing materializes. One wonders, "Why did they bother naming this place?"

Local author and historian Irene Robillard has been busy investigating this spot on the map in what has become a new book, *Springtown Reflections: A Study of People and Time*. It all started in 1999 when she visited Goldie Moore in her log home, while researching her first book, *Burnstown United Church 1849-1999*. Goldie explained how Springtown was once the hub of the township and a ma-

ior stopping-place for the lumbermen who travelled up and down the river.

Springtown Reflections describes the rise and fall of Springtown from its earliest beginnings to modern days. Robillard delves deeply into the people who once lived here, the places, and the happenings throughout the past two centuries in this quaint little community, most of which now has become only a distant memory.

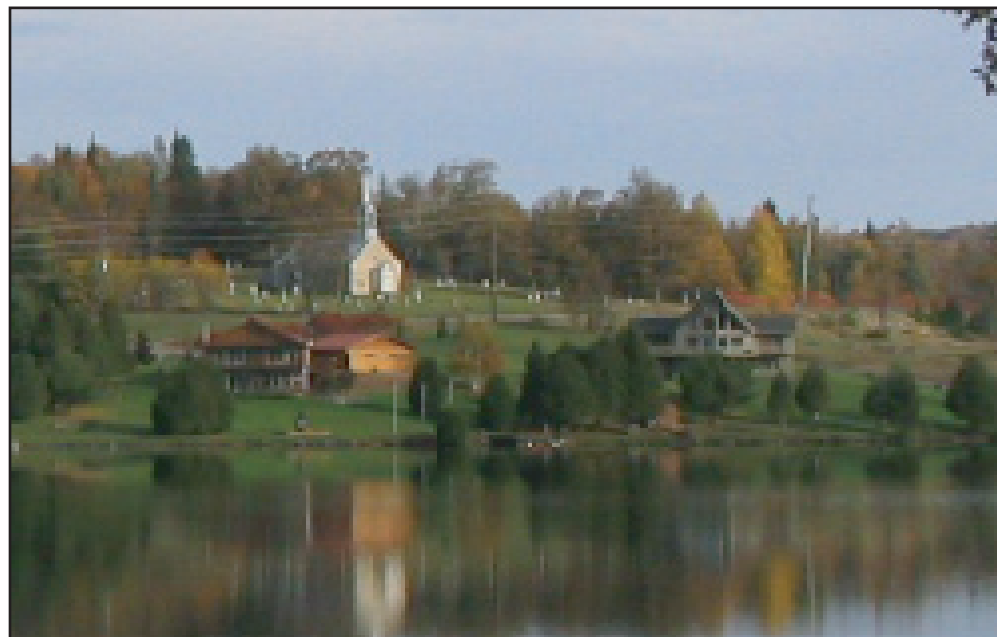
Springtown was once a flourishing trade centre along the Madawaska River during the square timber era of the Ottawa Valley. Situated at the head of Long Rapids, the log drivers would pause in Springtown before venturing down the next 16 miles of treacherous river. It was also on the main road to the lumber camps up the Madawaska, and it was here that the road branched to go to inland settlements.

Even before the area became a township in 1842, the head of Long Rapids was a stopping place called Joyce's Point. It was then purchased by lumber merchant and businessman Gerrard McCrea, who sold the property to his cousin Edward, who continued to operate the inn. Piers and booms were placed across the river at the point so that timber could be held until river drivers were rested and ready to descend the rapids. Edward McCrea's tavern ledger of 1870 reflects his heavy involvement in the logging industry, as well as the many people and lumber barons with whom he dealt. The McCrea family continued to own the property for most of the 20th century. Today the inn has been converted and is now known as Stillpoint House of Prayer, open to anyone wanting to withdraw from the demands of daily life.

Many of the township's firsts occurred here. The first post office opened in 1848 at the home of John Halliday, after whom Halliday Creek is named. The post office was called "Bagot" after the township, which was the normal naming conven-

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Springtown from across the Madawaska



Could it happen here?

By Bill Graham, Editor

Earlier in the summer a controversy that had been smoldering in North Frontenac Township since the previous November ignited in the media. The controversy concerned uranium mining and the staking of claims for the mineral rights on private land.

While uranium mining with all its potential threats to health and the environment was the main story, an important subtext was the rights of private landowners.

The Mining Act R.S.O. 1990 defines mining rights as "the right to minerals on, in, or under the land." Surface rights are "every right in land other than mining rights." The act also provides equal rights to access to the property if there are two different owners—mining and surface rights.

Over the past 300 years there have been different practices used in Ontario when dealing with mineral rights ownership. As a result, the ownership of surface and mining rights will vary from one parcel of land to the next across the province.

Prior to May 6, 1913, any parcel of land granted as a patent by the Crown included mineral rights ownership and land patents granted after this date may or may not have included the mineral rights. Simply, what this means is if you bought Crown land, or the previous owner did after May 6, 1913, it is possible that you only own the properties' surface rights and not necessarily the mining rights.

The Ministry of Northern Development and Mines says that only one percent of landowners in Ontario don't own their mineral rights and that the chances of a mine opening in someone's backyard are very slim. However, Bedford Mining Alert; an association of Bedford landowners in South Frontenac Townships says it is closer to two percent and that most of these are in Eastern Ontario.

As of April 26, 2004, there were 44 active claims in Bedford district and many areas open to staking. Thirty-eight claims are held by Graphite Mountain Inc. and 6 claims are held by individuals. More recently and just a little further north in North Frontenac Township, uranium exploration is taking place on 60 square

continued on page 2

Matawatchan Market
Matawatchan Community Hall

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Could it happen here (Cont)

km. in the Crotch Lake area, north of Sharbot Lake. According to the Ottawa Citizen, Frontenac Ventures Corp. has staked more than 400 claims.

Just to the east of us in Pontiac County (Quebec), a company called Aldershot Resources Limited is looking for mineable uranium in the Pontiac region on the north side of the Ottawa River and has staked 345 square kilometres of mining claims. This translates into some 40,000 acres.

Just to the west of us in Bancroft, the uranium industry is re-emerging. CanAm Uranium has an option on a major landholding in the Bancroft region, with its option on 8 uranium properties, on which it may earn 80% interest. The properties in total are comprised of 37 mineral claims, and the claims cover a total of approximately 9,765 acres (3,952 hectares), and are located 10--40 km to the east of the town of Bancroft.

The price of uranium has been rocketing upward in the last few years, driven by the possibility of increased demand, especially from China and India, and the lapsing of agreements to reclaim uranium from Soviet stockpiles and decommissioned nuclear warheads. The price is now over \$70 US/lb and has increased seven-fold in the past five years. The Ottawa Citizen says that the spot price for uranium is \$135 U.S a pound or 19 times what it was just seven years ago.

The environmental effects of uranium mining include the contamination of ground water with dissolved metals and radioactive materials, dispersal of radioactive dust, and releases of radioactive gas into the air. When uranium ore is processed, 85% of the radioactivity is left behind in the tailings, and must be managed safely for hundreds of thousands of years. This is a pretty scary prospect for a private landowner or a community.

The Mining Act, first enacted in 1868 and in essence little changed since, is a powerful piece of legislation. It takes precedence over private property rights (if you don't own the mineral rights) and even Aboriginal land claims.

By virtue of this legislation anyone who is at least 18 years of age with \$25.50 can purchase a prospector's licence and stake a claim on Crown land or on private land where the owner does not own the mineral rights. If a mining company is interested in his claim, it can lease the rights from the prospector and begin exploratory work.

Even though property owners may not be aware of a mining claim on their property, they have just one year from when a claim is recorded to dispute the claim.

With just 24 hours notice, exploration can occur on a recorded claim. Exploration includes tree clearing, drilling, blasting and trenching to collect samples. Exploration can involve surface stripping up to 10,000 square metres (1 hectare) of area and the removal of up to 1000 tons of material.

The geographic township of Griffith-Matawatchan borders on North Frontenac Township, so the question remains—could it happen here?


So far there appears to be no claims staked in the area around the Village of Matawatchan. I searched a Ministry of Northern Development and Mines website with a "Mining Lands CLAIMMaps section. By locating my area on the map and drilling down, I established that, at least according to the software, there were no claims in my area. The site can be accessed at: www.claimaps.mndm.gov.on.ca/mndm/claimap/disclaime.htm

The best way to set your mind at ease is to establish whether you own the mineral rights associated with your property.

It could happen here!

End

Cc



**THE TOWNSHIP OF
GREATER MADAWASKA**

**NOTICE OF APPLICATIONS TO AMEND
WASTE SITE OPERATIONS
MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING
TRANSFER STATIONS**

In June and July 2007 the Township of Greater Madawaska submitted applications to amend the existing Provisional Certificates of Approval at the Township's five (5) waste disposal sites. The sites and locations are as follows:

- Norway Lake (A411702), 574 Norway Lake Road
- Matawatchan (A412204), 3508 Matawatchan Road
- Griffith (A412203), 6 Finns Road
- Mount St. Patrick (A411901), 134 Flat Road
- Black Donald (A411902), 34 Hydro Dam Road


The purpose of the applications are as follows:

Site	Application
Norway Lake	Upgrading of existing solid waste transfer station operations
Matawatchan	Establishment of solid waste transfer station operations
Griffith	Establishment of solid waste transfer station operations
Mount St. Patrick	Establishment of solid waste transfer station and operational upgrades to waste disposal operations
Black Donald	Establishment of solid waste transfer station and operational upgrades to waste disposal operations

The applications are available for public review at the Township office located at 1101 Francis Street, Calabogie, Ontario. The applications are currently under review by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment. Comments on the applications can be provided in writing to:

Director
Ontario Ministry of the Environment
Environmental Assessment and Approvals Branch
2 St. Clair Avenue, 12th Floor
Toronto, Ontario
M4V 1L5

*Dated August 21, 2007,
Mr. John A. Baird, RRFA, CMM III
CAO/Clerk,
Township of Greater Madawaska*



Wounded birds

By Peter Chess

Have you ever picked up an injured bird by the road, brought it home and then not known what to do next?

It happened to my granddaughter and I while driving on the 41 Highway. An American Bittern was flapping in the ditch, helpless with a badly mangled leg and wing problems. We asked around about anyone who would take the bird in but until Steve and Gail Main at the Eagle's Rest tracked down the Wild Life Bird Care Centre in Kanata, we were stumped.

Located on Moodie Drive and open seven days a week, the Centre was the place to go. Our visit was memorable with dozens of birds housed in viewing areas—great for kids and adults alike.

They ask only for a donation being a private organization and will accept any type of bird in distress. You can follow up with a phone call to trace your bird's progress with its recovery.

They can be reached at 613-828-2849 or via email at mojo@wildbirdcarecentre.org.

End



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Contact us!

Your comments and story ideas are welcome

Springtown (Cont.)

tion at the time. Thus, the village was named Bagot for a number of years. It was later named Springtown by Edward McCrea, after his home in Ireland. (Or was it given this name because it became a town in the spring, when the loggers stopped during their log drives?)

The first school and the first church in the township were built here in 1853. The stone church, blessed as St. Gabriel Archangel in January 1854, is still standing today. The history of this church and how the faithful travelled many miles in the early days is described in detail. The church bell, blessed that same day, has its own history to tell. It was removed, crated, and hauled away to be sent to India. Before it left the country, however, fate interceded and it mysteriously returned to the church's belfry, where it still hangs today.

By the early 1850s, besides a church, school, and post office, there were hotels, stores, and a sawmill. Tradesmen included a blacksmith, shoemaker, carpenter, and weaver. Teamsters, shanty-men, and labourers, listed in the early census, are employed in the lumber trade.

There must have been great anticipation that the community was going to thrive. In 1868, a year after Canada was officially a country, a town plan was registered in the Land Records Office, complete with street names and 33 lots. This town plan was one of the earliest in the county.

Springtown Reflections continues its historical account by relating the reasons for the fall of Springtown: the decision to construct the K & P Railway through Calabogie and Ashdad, the decline in the timber industry, and the shallow and stone-filled farm fields surrounding the village. The effect of the hydroelectric dam at Stewartville was felt as far upstream as Springtown. As modern days approached, the little community faced the loss of its church, school, and post office. By the end of 1969, all that remained of Springtown were a few houses, the closed church, and two graveyards.

Besides recounting events, *Springtown Reflections* also provides details about the early settlers. In addition to the Irish Catholics, the community was composed of Scots (some making their way from Laird McNab's rule in the adjacent township), Empire Loyalists, English, and French. Along with the McCrea, Halliday, and Joyce families, other early names include Wilson, Hunter, Towns, Moran, Fergus, Ruddy (or Ready/Reddy), McNeely, Hartney, Devine, and Brydges. Across the river, the McNee, McHugh, McGuire, McNulty, Foster, Ryan, and Taylor families were also trying to make a living farming. The book provides the story of how some of these settlers arrived, includ-



Springtown McCrea Inn

The McCrea homestead at the point in Springtown, looking upriver, September 1915. On the left is the logging boom and piers. Courtesy of Arnprior and District Archives; Charles Macnamara fonds.

ing the intriguing tale of John Stringer's jumping ship on the St. Lawrence River. The following excerpt provides the account of the original Fraser family's trip to America and why they decided to proceed to the Ottawa Valley.

"A son, James Fraser, was interviewed in 1897 by The Renfrew Mercury. Although most of the article showcased his farm buildings and produce, James also described his family's trip from Dumfries, Scotland. James would have been about thirteen when he came to Canada. They settled a few miles from the Madawaska River on what is now Fraser Road.

His father was the late Alexander Fraser, a tailor, and in the early months of 1836, he and his family headed for the new world. But it took them some time to get there. A few days out, their ship was disabled, but they were taken back to Liverpool by another vessel. Cholera was prevalent at the time, and Mrs. Fraser took it. This delayed the family some two or three months; the father meantime working at his trade. In late June or early July, another start was made, and in due, but slow time, Canada was reached. At Montreal, tickets were purchased for Toronto, but on the way they stopped off to see a Mr. Martin, who had come from the same parish in Scotland, and who was then engaged in the mercantile line in what is now Ottawa. The late John Halliday, of Bagot, used to buy at Martin's: and here he and Mr. Fraser met. Learning that the latter was a tailor, Mr. Halliday strongly urged them to locate in Bagot. His representations prevailed. The tickets to Toronto were sacrificed, and the family started for Springtown. But here again, they met with shipwreck on the high seas of the Chats Lake. The bottom was knocked out of their boat, and they were left for a week on Chats Island. At the end of that time, they managed to get to the mainland, on paying a boatman \$2 ferriage; but had to leave their luggage on the island. A shanty was built at Springtown for the family to reside in that fall. The township was surveyed the next spring, and then the family located on the present homestead."

Springtown Reflections also provides glimpses of the comings and goings in the community. It explains where some of the early settlers migrated. Later in the 19th century others arrive, including the Polish immigrant families of Clemen, Kubiseski, and Ostroskie. Both hard times and fun times are described through the years. Family tragedies include sickness, accidents, drownings, and even murder. There is a great 1868 letter to Edward McCrea from his ailing mother in Ireland. Later, Joseph Foster describes himself as the champion stone picker and maple syrup maker. Memories of school days, the Depression, and other events are provided by some who lived through them.

The CD that accompanies this book is a treasure trove for family historians.

The first chart contains census data from 1851 through 1911, plus any extra genealogy information found by the author. There are more than 1,500 names, representing nearly 100 families. Other portions of the CD include land record information and transcriptions of the tombstones in the three local cemeteries.

Springtown Reflections: A Study of People and Time is a book of memories and a little-known history of a tiny, picturesque hamlet along the Madawaska River. Within its 180 pages, there are over 125 photographs, plus many maps and charts. There is a bibliography and index. The price is \$24.95, which includes the CD genealogical supplement. Anyone having ties with this Ottawa Valley village will want to open this book full of family names and events. Even if you don't have ties, but live in and around this beautiful spot, you will want this for your library.

Editor's note: To order your copy, contact General Store Publishing House (www.gsph.com or 1-800-465-6072) or the author (613-432-6987). The book is also available at Somethin' Special Gift Shop in Burnstown. Better yet, come to the author's first book signing on the beautiful, historic grounds of Stillpoint (3031 Calabogie Road), located along the Madawaska River. The date, rain or shine, is Saturday, September 15, 2007 from 2 to 4 p.m., on what is hoped to be a glorious fall afternoon. Light refreshments will be provided. Please contact Noreen at 613-433-9737 if further information is required.

End



Schoolchildren, 1941. Front row from left, Bobby Moore, Anna Brydges, Margaret Ostroski, Lillian Brydges, Dorothy Ostroski, Tommy Walters. Middle row from left, Lloyd Brydges, Wanetta Ostroski, Harvey Rochon, Irene Brydges, Marie Walters. Back row from left, Arnold Legree, Theresa Hosier, Catherine Brydges, Margaret Brydges.

Courtesy of Allen and Genevieve Brydges.

A few days in a schoolteacher's life

By Wes Bomhower

Mary was an adopted child who led a very sheltered life in Toronto until her eighteenth year, which would be 1948. She had just completed Grade 13, intending to attend Teacher's College in the autumn, but came down with her parents for the summer to a cottage they owned near Lanark. Her parents refused to let her have much of a social life, but she did manage to go to a dance in Clyde Forks that summer, and so began a whole new life for this city girl.

She danced the night away with some local lads, met up with a group of older citizens who were desperately in need of a school teacher in the area, and Mary accepted their offer to teach there for a year. This was in the days after World War 2 when teachers were extremely scarce, and it was allowable to teach before entering Teacher's College. Mary's mother and father were horrified that she would be teaching out in the sticks but Mary had made up her mind and there was no way they could change her mind.

Somewhere along the line there was a mix-up and she ended up teaching in a different township that season. White, about five miles

south of Calabogie, was just a wide place in the road which connects Lanark with Calabogie, (and it still is.) The little old schoolhouse is there yet, used as a community hall, to remind Mary of those early years each time she drives up that way.

She boarded at John's big house nearby, which also still stands. John's wife, Sarah, was a well proportioned woman of perhaps 300 pounds, and she was very protective of her children, some of whom were Mary's pupils. Teacher's leather strap was common in schools in those years to keep the rougher elements in line and Mary had to lay it on to one of the John and Sarah's boys for some infraction this certain day. Sarah confronted Mary afterward. "You gave my boy a beating today with the strap; she glowered. Mary refused to be intimidated. "Yes I did, Sarah, and he deserved it". Wham! A big beefy fist connected with Mary's jaw and she saw stars and little blue birds as she fought to maintain her footing.

Another haymaker was in the works but Mary managed to dodge that one and grabbed the big woman's arm, trying to talk some sense into Sarah, but failed. "Get out of my house; Sarah shouted, "And do not try to use the phone either".

Mary decided discretion was in order but she had no vehicle, so was forced to walk up the White Road for assistance. She met Jack Franklin and another man, told them her story, and they offered to move her belongings to another boarding house about one and a half miles up the White Road. She boarded there and finished out her year at White, then returned to Toronto and Teacher's College.

The lure of Lanark and Renfrew Counties was strong however, and she had met George Howard of Calabogie, a lad a bit younger than herself but they hit it off right from the start. Mary would come down on weekends to Calabogie by train, changing trains at Sharbot Lake to come up the old K.&P. One weekend in spring, she and George went fishing for mud pout in Grassy Bay which is the southern portion of Calabogie Lake. There were millions of mosquitoes but they hauled in a good catch of the little mud cats just the same. George cleaned them up ready for the pan and packed a big bag of fish for Mary to take on the train with her. As she boarded the train in Calabogie, the brakeman jokingly inquired what was in the big bag she carried, so Mary showed him the mess of catfish. The baggage handler had a look also, so after the train got rolling he produced some flour, butter, salt and pepper and

a frying pan, and with the aid of a little kerosene burner, they ate mud pout all the way to Sharbot Lake where Mary reluctantly changed trains for Toronto.


Just a few days in the life of a school teacher back in the late 'Forties, and this teacher would not trade those memories for any thing in the world. She taught in schools large and small all

across Ontario, but her heart was always here in the Ottawa Valley where her teaching career began. Those were the days!

End

The Heritage Old Time Country Music Association presents Canadian recording artist and TV personality Johnny Burke. Opening act: Lauren Hall, also Brian Hebert and The Canadian All Star Country Band, RCAF Wing Renfrew ON Saturday September 29, 8 p.m. General admission \$16, Members \$14. Info: 613 735 9682 / 613 732 9141 or www.hotcma.com



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7th Annual Calabogie Artfest:

The 7th Annual Calabogie Artfest will take place on Saturday, Sept 29 and Sunday, Sept 30, 2007, at the Calabogie, Community Centre, 574 Mill Street in Calabogie Ont.

The show will be open and free to all, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. This year we will have 20 talented artists, members of the Renfrew Art Guild showing works in oils, acrylics, pastels, acrylics, encaustics (bees wax), digital

and giclee prints. We are showing the paintings of three new members in our show. The Calabogie Artfest will be part of the Rural Ramble tour this year and because of that we expect even larger crowds.

The Calabogie Women's Institute will be running a Tea Room for lunches and afternoon tea. We are looking forward to you visiting our show and seeing the vast amount of artistic talent in our community.

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The Madawaska HIGHLANDER

“read cover to cover”

It's your Hall

For over fifty years the Matawatchan Community Memorial Hall has been operating successfully thanks to generations of volunteers down through the years. In any community there are only so many volunteers—usually no more than 20%. Consequently this volunteer base gets cycled through different organizations and recycled in different decades.

Matawatchan is no different. Every September there is an annual public meeting where a new board of volunteers are chosen to represent the Hall for the community. During many of these annual meetings the election of a new executive has been a struggle. This is partly due to the low attendance at these meetings.

Residents don't go to the meeting because they don't want to be roped into serving on the Hall executive. In many cases this is because they have already had the job numerous times. If anyone does not want to serve on the board, they should just say no. No one would think less of them for that. Besides, it serves neither the Hall nor the community to have an executive member who doesn't want to be there.

As important as the elections, is the presence of community members at the meeting to have a say in the Hall's future. The current Hall Board has a few ideas that should be put before the community for discussion.

For example, maybe a change in the structure of the organization might help, in some part, to alleviate volunteer burnout. The Hall is used by all community organizations, so if organizations like the Fish and Game Club, The Seniors, St. Andrew's United Church and our local Métis Association each had a delegate on the Hall Board to represent their organization's interest, then fewer volunteers would be needed to represent the interests of the Hall. There are likely other ideas that can be brought to this meeting.

The current Hall executive has considered the possibility that no executive will be elected for the coming year. If that possibility is realized, the current board will run the events already scheduled for the fall so that funds can be raised to strengthen the Hall bank account. Then, just before Christmas, the Hall will be shut down to save the very expensive operating costs of winter months. Last winter the heating cost alone was \$3200.

In March 2008 another general public meeting can be called to decide the Hall's future. Residents will then have had the winter to ponder.

Regardless of the outcome, the community needs to come out to the September 12th meeting (7:00 p.m.) to have a say in the future of one of the few remaining Matawatchan institutions.

End

Letter to the Editor:

A Voice from the Hall

With the encouragement of Kay Kelly, a long time supporter of the Matawatchan Hall, I attended the annual general meeting of the Matawatchan Hall about five years ago.

I arrived at the meeting as a resident and left as vice-president of the management board. I kept an open mind and became involved. Over time I heard all of the colourful stories from the past and how popular and functional this loved little building has been. I couldn't help but feel honoured to be of service to its legacy. This little Hall is more than the Village of Matawatchan. It also embodies the spirits of our neighbouring communities: Griffith, Denbigh, Vennachar and others.

Early on, I tried to develop a sense of what the Hall meant to people, and the community at large. I found that it mostly meant things from the past. People had loving memories from their youth, and the Hall appears to have been closely associated with them. When people congregate here it's somewhat in celebration of the past, as well as an opportunity to cross paths with friends and to support a valued memorial of community. Maybe, for now, respect is enough for this venerable institution to subsist, but it won't be forever, because nothing ever is.

The population of our community is aging, and the lovers of the Hall's rich legacy aren't going to be around forever. As things are now, the parties and dances that were once so popular and heavily supported are now scantily attended. Hall management boards in recent years have had to cancel some events. Financial losses have forced recent management boards to consider closing for the winter months.

While I have been President we have

Looking back...



First telephone call in Matawatchan

found new ways to raise funds that have proven to be popular. One way has been stag and doe parties and receptions that are more than a celebration but also an opportunity to help out our young people financially as they embark on married life. The effect is that patrons of the Matawatchan Hall can start developing new memories and new legacies. We have also initiated Pub Nights, and other events that have shown the promise of future success.

The Matawatchan Country Market is a new community driven enterprise that is part farmers' market and part sidewalk café. It is also an attempt to develop an agricultural element in the Griffith/Matawatchan economy. It is a new way for the Hall to serve the community.

We have revamped and improved the outdoor stage, to accommodate concerts and dances. We have facilitated a number of successful outdoor events. It needs, however, an expanded vision for success. We have a permanent liquor license which enables the

Griffith / Matawatchan community to initiate events and opportunities on relatively short notice. I don't know how much of a role licensed events will play in our futures. However, I strongly feel there is still a place for them in the present. The Hall now has the elements necessary for successful outdoor, as well as indoor events.

Many people are uncomfortable with change. I sense it can distort some fond memories of the past, but change does happen, whether we want it or not. Old memories must make room for new, and new legacies must be embraced for the sake of the young “up and comers.” It is their future memories; that will sustain the Matawatchan Hall, into the next decade and beyond...

My time involved with the Matawatchan Hall Board has been personally rewarding, and I feel fortunate that I've had this opportunity. However, it's time for fresh blood, and some fresh energy. I would also, at this time; include Bill Graham's resignation as Secretary.

continued on page 17

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Co-operation and Understanding: a folktale

By Mary-Joan Hale

Once upon a time the Elves looked after a magical place called Happy Highlands. It was covered with forests, with trees of all kinds, but known for its White Pines. The lakes and rivers were full of fish. The earth offered up many minerals. Over time, trees were cut down for houses, ships and furniture. The water and forests provided food for the people who settled there. The mines produced minerals for factories elsewhere. Folks could watch the logs float down their Happy River to the Big White River. Men worked in the bush or the mines, or in the lumber mills. Many tried farming, but the harvest of stones every spring discouraged some. Life was tough, but by and large everyone was happy and employed. Over time, the river stopped its log courier service, the mines were closed or flooded, farming became more difficult and the mills closed down. Sadness overtook some, but the sound of the fiddle and a dance on Saturday night and Church on Sunday morning made life somewhat easier.

Gradually the villagers realised that others might be willing to visit Happy Highlands to swim, fish, and ski or just relax, so they built some places for their guests. The secret got out and people from Giant City or White River Capital began to come to visit or settle down. The Happy Highlanders welcomed them, shared their lakes and rivers, and helped the Cityfromers learn to cope in the bush. Then the villagers returned to their own quiet ways. They were

sad because their children were leaving home and the village began to shrink.

The king of all the villages made their village join together with two other villages. Soon the Happy Highlanders, the Friendly Mountaineers and the Good Rafters would have to try to work together. The three villages obeyed the king and became the megavillage of Happymount. It was hard to all work together. Even though they were one in name, they still thought as three different villages plus the Cityfromers who worked hard to join in and volunteer. They did not know that the villagers were sad about the lost jobs causing their children to leave. More activities were planned to give work to the young Happymounters. That should have made everyone happy. Not so; soon everyone started to argue and complain to the king's governor. No one was happy. Neighbours shunned neighbours and built huge walls around their homes.

Meanwhile, the Elves were trying to grow the flowers, organise the seasons and make life easier for the Mortals. When they heard all the complaining and bickering, the Elves had a meeting and decided to spread a magic dust over all of Happymount. Soon everyone was talking to their neighbours, but most of all, they were listening to each other and tearing down the walls. When an activity was planned to keep jobs in the village, everyone discussed it quietly and respectfully and the words co-operation and understanding became the mantra for all and they lived happily ever after....most of the time....

End

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All new products have been reduced as well as many of the antiques.

To all my clients and friends, Florella's, aka Bonnie Aspin, thanks you for an enjoyable 10 years in the Valley.

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Griffith Matawatchan News

By Garry Ferguson

Computer lovers take heart. It seems that high speed is slowly coming to the Denbigh-Griffith-Matawatchan area. Lucas Belemba and Elizabeth Carns, of Bancroft's Aryntel, came to the Matawatchan Hall on August 09, 2007 to update 30 committed and prospective customers on the status of the high-speed project.

The meeting resulted from a visit that Rosemary and Barney O'Connor, Carol Ferguson and Doug Vasey made to the company's Bancroft Office a week prior to the meeting. Seems that communications with customers had been rather sparse due to the inaction of employees, now reclassified to ex employees, so the two representatives wished to convey the message to a wider audience that "things will improve." The overall tone of the meeting was pretty civil, probably due to the nice lunch that Rosemary, Carol and Gail Holtzhauer laid on.

Stay tuned for more details in the next Highlander.

Be sure to back off on the throttle a bit if you're in the vicinity of Matawatchan Road and Highway 41 near the Rapids End Store or along Highway 28 in downtown Denbigh. That's where the Denbigh Griffith Lions will be setting up their toll roads on Friday August 31. We should all dig deep for this one because the proceeds are needed to fulfill the pledge made to Hospice Renfrew.

The dauber-and-rabbit-foot crowd will have another shot or shots at the big \$1000 bingo pot in 50, or less, num-



L-R: Frieman Virgin, Garry Ferguson, June Biggs and Rick Sernoski

bers. They can take a run at it on August 21, September 04 and September 18. Another current fundraiser is the sale of a Lions cookbook for a mere \$10 each. Even though some of us may never get around to KP duties beyond boiling water or operating the toaster, one can spend several pleasant hours looking to recognize the names of the local folks credited with donating the recipes. For culinary artists, the book is a real treasure.

On Sunday August 12, Station Two and Station One firefighters were called to a house fire in Griffith. The home of Bruce and Sandra Dean suffered extensive internal fire damage though a quick response saved the structure.

Four representatives from Station Two, Gary and Chris Peters, Dave Vaniderstine and Terry Holtzhauer joined over 300 other firefighters and dignitaries from across Ontario on Saturday August 11, 2007 to attend the funeral of Deputy Chief Bill Sammond of the Kaladar and Barrie Fire Department in Northbrook. Deputy Chief Sammond was killed in a one-vehicle accident while on duty.

At 1 p.m. on Saturday August 18, the Fish and Game Club held a meeting in the Matawatchan Hall to elect a new board of directors. The new lineup is as follows: President, Pete Bourdon, Vice President, John Lacourse, Treasurer, Jackie Jenks and Secretary, Marlene Smith. The Ways and Means Committee looks like a small army with seven members. For information on the upcoming Bow Shoot, contact any of the board members.

The Heritage Old Time Country Music Association (HOTCMA) returned to the Matawatchan Hall on August 19 for the second Matawatchan Jamboree. Approximately 70 people turned out to hear a lineup of musicians who signed up to perform along with house band Bay Connection (Barry's Bay) reinforced by fiddler Frieman Virgin of Calabogie. The HOTCMA, Hall Board and ladies from The Many Waters Metis Association who made food available, collaborated to make the afternoon a success. There is every reason to believe that the HOTCMA will decide to return at this time next year.

On Sunday afternoon, July 29, 2007 a large crowd gathered in the Ma-

tawatchan Hall to celebrate the fifty-fifth wedding anniversary of Annabell and Gerry Marshall. The only hitch was that neither knew anything about it until they landed inside the hall under the impression that they were about to attend some fictional event concocted in their children's vivid imaginations. It was a tribute to the Marshalls' popularity that family and friends filled the hall to such an extent that it was difficult to find a seat. After the initial surprise that was sprung on the couple had eased a bit, everyone settled down to celebrate in the usual Matawatchan fashion – eating, making music and eating.

For more than a decade, people passing through Matawatchan have been able to keep abreast of upcoming social highlights by glancing at the large portable signboard on wheels across from the late Matawatchan Country Store. Betty MacPherson, (Cousin Betty to most of us in this part of the township) co-owner of the late store, faithfully arranges the large letters to list future Matawatchan Hall events as a courtesy of the establishment. Though the store has been history for several years, Betty has continued to keep us informed via her signboard and it is still a choice source of information for much of the from-here and from-away populations.

A Cadillac-class poster board, salvaged from the also late Wilderness Pines Camp Grounds, has been placed on the opposite side of the Matawatchan Road, but those wishing to read the information posted on it must stop their vehicles, get out and put on the specs. The beauty of Betty's signboard is that it can be read with the naked eye from the comfort of your vehicle while rolling through town at 40 clicks per hour.

End

Denbigh Checking In

By Angela Bright

*Congratulations to Eythel and Orlene Grant on the birth of grandson Gavin, who arrived on June 28th, a second son for Carmel and Brent Lessard.

*The Denbigh Recreation Committee is holding a Fall Countryfest, September 22nd and 23rd. There will be a horse pull, lumberman's contest, antique engines, children's events, dinner and dance. If you interested in having a table to sell your artwork, crafts, vegetables, baking, etc, the cost is only \$10 and you can call Janice at 613-333-2797 to reserve your space. The Rec committee is also selling tickets for a draw that will take place during the Countryfest weekend. Prizes to be drawn for are a quilt, an afghan and a Countryfest basket, all which have been graciously donated.

*We went to the indoor yard sale at the hall on August 4th, seemingly just as people were starting to make their way about town. Everyone was in the long weekend time zone, including us. Lots

of books, puzzles, toys, small appliances, home baked goodies and interesting bits were up for sale. Hope your wares were mostly sold by the end of the day - and thank you to all who came out to support Denbigh Recreation.

*Denbigh Griffith Lions Club has just published a cookbook, one of many items for sale at Denbigh Rec's yard sale. I could not resist picking up a copy. There is a wonderful selection of main dishes, desserts and everything else in between. For only \$10, recharge your at home menus, with proceeds going to the Sight II program.

*Fourteen kids came to the Denbigh Library on July 26th for the third week of the TD Summer Reading Program. They listened to 2 dinosaur stories, made fossils and did a variety of activity sheets. Many received the "Lost Worlds" book bag for reading 3 books and completing 3 book reports, and everyone received a "Lost Worlds" poster. Tonight's theme is the "Middle Ages".

*Sunday July 22nd dawned a sparkling summer day especially made for picnics. Members and friends of the New Apostolic Church from Belleville, Denbigh and Kingston joined with Brethren from Ottawa for the Annual Eastern Ontario picnic. We rented the beautiful Ron Kolbus Lakeside Center, located on the shore of the Ottawa River. This centre offered an air conditioned assembly hall, complete kitchen facilities, a private indoor and outdoor patio and a common treed grass playground with an adjacent sandy beach - just perfect for our get together! Over 100 attended the Divine Service followed by a fabulous BBQ picnic. The church provided the essential nourishment - sausages, buns and salads while our members provided the desserts, soft drinks and coffee. Games for young and old, some really unique (the games not the people) followed the meal including water balloons and a variation of that game. Prizes were awarded to all participating children. Ice cream and a closing prayer of thanks for a wonderful day with the petition

for Angel protection for a safe journey home ended the festivities in Ottawa around 4:00pm. What a great day!

*A couple of weeks ago we enjoyed a family outing with a few hours spent at Storyland. The weather was perfect – warm but not humid. We saw all the familiar storybook characters; Alice in Wonderland, The Seven Dwarves, Humpty Dumpty, The Three Little Pigs, and of course the big White Rabbit, which is more or less the park's mascot. The Champlain Lookout has the most spectacular view and was probably the highlight, at least for me. One of the more recent additions at Storyland is a splash park, and judging by the fun all the children were having, was the highlight for them. The owners have announced this season will be the final season, so you may want to take the opportunity to have once last visit while you can.

*All the best to the kidlettes and teens heading back for another school year!

End

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CABA Corner

By Karen Warren

This month's issue of our CABA review takes us to two local businesses.

Our first stop is the Hair Port with the very talented hairstylist and artist Kim Carnegie. Kim has a great little shop/gallery in her home at 9 Carnegie Crescent on the Calabogie Road.

Originally from Chapeau, Quebec Kim has been in Calabogie for nineteen years. From a very early age she had a natural flare for hairstyling and served friends and family before she went off to school to get her credentials. Kim's salon is full service and caters to both men and women. with cuts, perms, barbering, coloring, highlights, foils and facial waxing. She is both knowledgeable and skilled in her craft. Kim has a wide client base with regulars from the local and surrounding area as well as Ottawa, Toronto and even the United States. The summer and winter tourists find her and keep coming back.

Kim's other passion is her artwork. She does general landscapes, commissions, florals and pets. Kim works in oil and some acrylic. I had a special opportunity to watch Kim at work creating one of her fabulous paintings. With an eye for every detail, the images just seemed to jump on to the canvas before my very eyes. The painting was commissioned to capture forever the memories at a client's cottage. Beautifully done Kim!

Kim enjoys the area's wonderful mix of tourists and permanent residents. She feels very fortunate to live, work and raise a family in this great community.

Kim can be reached at her shop 613-

752-2555 Tues to Friday from 9-5, Thursday evening by appt, and Saturday from 9 to noon. Appointments are not always necessary. For artwork inquiries you can contact her at 613-752-0073 or kimkev@magma.ca

Drop in and see her, you'll be glad you did.

The next stop on our review takes us to Norton Road and the Wellness Natural Health Center with Susan Veale. Susan is new to our area. Welcome.

Originally from Oxford Mills and Ottawa, Susan relocated her business to Calabogie in August of 2006. Her list of credentials includes a Bachelor of Science degree in Kinesiology with Honors in Sports Medicine. She is also a Natural Health Practitioner with certification in Reflexology, a Reiki Master, an EMF practitioner and Biofeedback programmer.

In her health care practice, Susan examines a person's complete health picture including physical, chemical and emotional. This thorough analysis helps Susan to guide people through natural healing by stimulating the body's own healing power.

When she relocated to Calabogie, many of Susan's clients continued to visit her and on their arrival, often comment on the local scenery, shops and fine dining establishments.

Susan's passion is people. She feels privileged and honored to work with her clients. Making a difference in their lives is important. Susan says, "Education is the key. People do not get sick, their cells do. I enjoy teaching clients how to be more proactive in their health care and with that, I explain how to interrupt messages communicated by their



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bodies. When it comes to health care, I believe it makes more sense to prevent a disease rather than treat a disease. After all, "Who wants to live in a body with a compromised quality of life?"

Susan enjoys Calabogie and believes this area is conducive to health and healing. The trees for example provide a natural cleansing of the air

which is vital to our health. One of her dreams is to build a healing center with ample space for people to stay for short or long periods of time, to eat well, rest and learn about self healing.

Susan's clinic offers a multitude of services and healing programs including general wellness, nutritional counseling, homeopathy, female health issues, children's health including ADD/ADHD, weight management, sports injuries and this list goes on. I was intrigued with the chemical free home and cleaning products.

Susan has a web site, www.mylysis.com where you'll find testimonials from real people that have had the benefit of Susan's care. You can reach her by email at info@mylysis.com. Her clinic is at her home at 44 Norton Rd, RR#2 Calabogie, ON, K0J 1H0. Telephone 613-752-1540 or Fax: 613-752-1541.

I certainly enjoyed doing this interview and I'll be making my appointment soon!

Garry and Annabell Marshall had a wonderful surprise for their 55th Anniversary.

Not a word got out about the surprise party.

Thanks to all that helped out and kept it a surprise.

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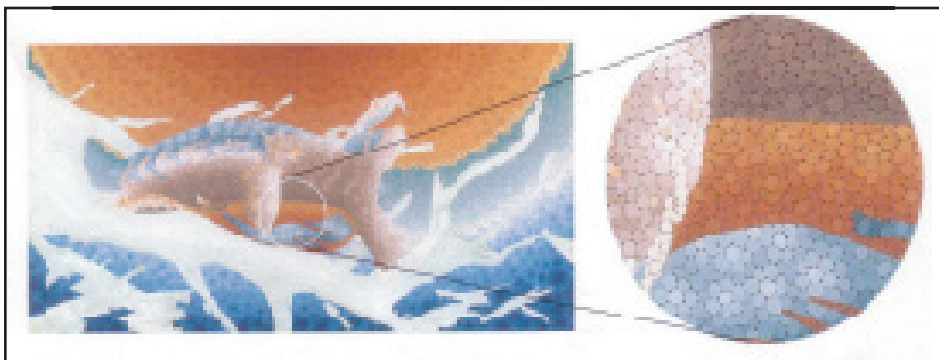
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Madawaska Valley Studio Tour



Turtle and detail (Artist: Tim Beckett)

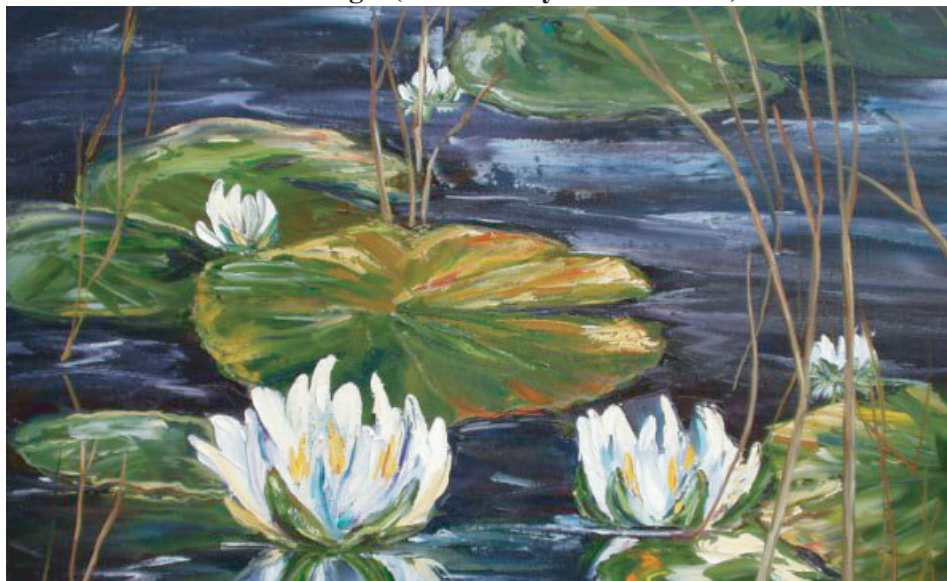


Kathy Haycock at the Woodland Gallery near Eganvill

Calabogie Artfest



Madawaska Street Calabogie (Artist: Dwyene MacNabb)



Water Lillies (Artist: Kim Carnegie)



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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
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Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
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Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
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St. Luke's United Church
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Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

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

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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.
Vacation Bible Camp - August 13-17,
9:00 - noon each day;
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

7th Annual Calabogie Artfest
(1st time, part of Ottawa Valley Tourist
Association's Rural Ramble)
Community Hall
September 29-30, 10 – 4 pm

Calabogie Womens' Institute
meets the second Thursday of each
month, 7:30 pm;
Contact Marjorie Watts at 613-752-2598
for info; new members welcome

Calabogie Arts and Crafts Assoc.,
Every 2nd Monday (if holiday, then
3rd Monday), 10:00am – 1:00 pm,
Community Hall, prospective members
welcome (\$12 per year), 752-0072

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

Calabogie Seniors: Pot luck dinner
and meeting – the last Thursday of each
month – Community Hall begins at 4:00
p.m. – All seniors 55+ are welcome

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 emergency situations, please call
752-2201

Springtown

Book signing for Springtown Reflections
Stillpoint (3031 Calabogie Road)
Saturday, September 15, 2007 from 2 to
4 p.m

Griffith & Matawatchan

Matawatchan Community Market
Every Saturday morning
June 16 to October 13
9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Matawatchan Hall

Lion's Club Bingo
Every second Tuesday at 7:30 pm
Sept. 4 and Sept 18

Community Centre, Griffith, 613- 333-
5523

Sylvia's Foot Care
Every six weeks
Oct 3 – 9:30 a.m.
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

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

Fellowship Luncheon
These meals are held the first
Wednesday of each month at noon.
Contact Pat Holleran 333-1229
or Lois Robbins at 333-1082

Denbigh

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

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

Denbigh Country Fest Sept 22-23

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Fishing with Jim

By Jim Weatherall.



The fishing is still good on Calabogie Lake. I had a man from New Jersey out in Grassy Bay for Bass and we landed 20 Large Mouth and 1 Small Mouth.

The Small Mouth was about 2 ½ lb. and only one of the Large Mouth topped 3 lb. The rest were small and were all taken on dark green “Wacky Worms”.

Todd MacDonald had his nephew, T.J. MacDonald out at Barret Chute. T.J. landed 2 Catfish – one 17” long and the other 22”. He also got a 16 ½” Pickerel. Not bad for a 5 year old.

Harry Cox has started up a BLOG about fishing and bragging rights – check it out at <http://fishcrazy-big-dog.blogspot.com> or E-mail Harry at Harry43@sympatico.ca. Get your favorite pictures or stories on the web for everyone to see.

I have a little tip about putting new line on your reel as I have been asked about it several times. Put it on wet! I put the new spool of line in a sink full of water or in the toilet bowl. This will help take the memory out of the line so it won't kink up on the reel. Simply

wind steadily onto your reel.

There is not too much summer left, so get out there and catch “The Big One”. Be sure to let me know if you do, if you want bragging rights in print.

See you out on the lake and BE SAFE.

Jim

Thank you

We would sincerely like to thank our wonderful family and friends, from near and far, who gave us such a lovely “Surprise Party” to celebrate our coming 55th wedding Anniversary. Everyone certainly knew how to keep a secret and we thoroughly enjoyed every minute of it.

A big thank you, also, to the musicians who so ably gave their time and talents to make the day very memorable, and to the St. Andrew's U.C.W. who provided a delicious lunch.

We thank you all so very sincerely.

Gerry and Annabell Marshall

GREATER MADAWASKA LITERARY MATTERS

By Mary-Joan Hale

The bugs have taken over the Township building! Don't panic. Don't call the exterminator. The children have been reading up a storm, or hive or nest, or web...whatever... Each coloured bug represents a book read. They have definitely gone “Buggy With Books”!

Touring the past has been exciting. From the village storytellers of old, the Natives of past and present, the Celts, Greeks and Romans, the trip has been busy but went too quickly! A toga party will cap off the TD Summer Reading program. One of the favourite activities had to be the ‘Archaeological Dig’. They learned about surveying, making a grid, excavating layer by layer and how to carefully extract delicate artefacts from the soil. One group found nothing and was terribly disappointed, but learned that it often happens on a real dig. Our kind summer student, Cara, went back in time to place treasures in another ‘square’ on the grid. They learned that some children are ‘pueri’ and some are ‘puellae’ and they are all amici. We had many giggles when a puer stood up when the puellae were invited to do so. (Translation: puer: a boy; pueri: boys; puella: a girl; puellae: girls; amici: friends; if girls only: amicae). This is just a teaser and one hopes that they might just be tempted to learn more about history, language or archaeology. Meanwhile the theme was a fun one and literacy gained a few more points in GM.

There has been a flurry of articles appearing in my inbox lately about libraries. Lowering library budgets has proven to be short sighted. By robbing a community of access to literature and research, the intellectual and cultural growth of the constituents is stunted. However, the library contributes so much more. In our tourist area, it serves as a place to check emails, keep up with family, business and book further transportation and accommodation. Children can get a head start on school and do research for school projects. While the Internet allows a wealth of information, it too can be out-of-date or incorrect. The hands-on use of books with easy to understand and up-to-date text and illustrations is most useful, or ‘user-friendly’ to use a term adopted from the computer folk. Future articles will offer insights from the library experts. But, we want to hear from you. Be a Library Advocate and send us a note or email. These will be collected and presented. No names will be used if that is your wish.

School will be starting soon and kids, we have just purchased some very interesting, fun books for your projects: science, art, geography and history. I wish they had been available when I

was in school. These were obtained with funds from an Ontario Literacy grant. Check the Website for some of the titles.

We have separated our Adult and Youth/Children's non-fiction sections. It will be much easier to find what you need. Cara has made some very good illustrations to guide you through the Dewey Decimal System. Adults will now find their resources shelved together and not inter-filed with Junior books. Check it out and check some out!

We have been so successful with our interlibrary loans, that we now get weekly delivery at our own library. John Watts has been busy with hammer, saw and paint brush and made a beautiful box to receive them. Soon, there will be two lovely boxes outside the library, one for returns, and one for the Inter-library loan courier. Thanks John for your kindness to the library. We thank the Renfrew Public Library for taking our loans for the past year and a half.

In September, the Library Board will again meet monthly. These volunteers are keenly interested in their role to provide literacy to all ages in the township. We have some exciting projects to carry out the terms of the Strategic Plan. More on that in future articles. Until then, enjoy the rest of the summer and if it gets too hot (or rainy) drop in to our cool little cubby downstairs at the Township Office to browse, surf, kick back and borrow something from our various collections.

End

**Most Precious Blood Church,
Calabogie**

Memorial Service

**Sunday,
September 9, 12
noon**

**Most Precious Blood
Cemetery**

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Moths --- Nature Works

By Floris Woods



Luna Moth

Photo: Carol Ferguson

The first and most amazing thing about moths is that there are a whole lot of them. Except for beetles (the order Coleoptera), the butterflies and moths that make up the order Lepidoptera (meaning scale wings) are the most numerous order in the world. It is estimated that there are about 130,000 species of Lepidoptera. Of these about 19,000 are butterflies and 111,000 are moths. These cosmopolitan creatures appear in every part of the Earth except in the Polar Regions. Butterflies are sometimes classed in the sub-order Rhopalocera while moths are classed in sub-order Heterocera, but this nomenclature has never been accepted scientifically.

The distinction between butterflies and moths is somewhat vague. The way most entomologists tell them apart is by the antennae and how the fore wings and hind wings are attached to each other. With few exceptions butterflies have clubbed antennae while moths antennae may be filaments, feathery or curled. Second, all Lepidoptera have a set of forewings and a set of hind wings, but they are not coordinated in flight. So their wings must be held together to follow one another. Moths wings are held together by a Velcro-like mechanism while butterflies have something known as a humeral lobe that holds them together in flight.

Some butterflies have more moth characteristics than butterfly characteristics and vice versa. Like most classification schemes Mother Nature does not always cooperate in our human penchant for orderliness, so a few moths have the butterfly-like clubbed antennae instead of the traditional long filament

or feathery antennae. A few moths rest with their wings folded vertically like butterflies, instead of out flat like we would like moths to do. A few moths fly around in the day time with the butterflies, instead of at night with their species mates. In spite of these anomalies lepidopterists usually agree on what is a butterfly and what is a moth. Some of the differences are derived from the fact that the vast majority of moths are nocturnal and nights are cooler than days so they need to conserve heat. Black wing spots on some butterflies help absorb heat from the sun, but most heat is absorbed directly into the bodies since butterfly wings are held upright while they bask. Moths hold their wings down close to their bodies to form a heat sandwich. The scales on the butterflies' wings and body are shorter and less hairy while moths need larger and hairy scales to insulate them.

All Lepidoptera have a proboscis style mouth part which often is coiled up under its head. It is designed for extracting nectar and other sweet juices such as rotting fruit juices. A few moths, notably some ghost moths, have no mouth parts at all because during their short lived adult stage they never eat. Moths can live from a few hours to a few years.

In terms of human economics moths, for the most part, are a negative. The infamous Gypsy moth was introduced to the United States in 1868 by Leopold Trouvelot who enjoyed raising caterpillars. Since then it has denuded thousands of square kilometres of forests of its hardwood leaves. The codling moth is the terror of apple farmers. If you have ever eaten half a worm in an apple you have likely eaten half a codling moth larva. Some larvae of moths of the family Tineidae eat cloth, especially wool and silk. Grain products are sometimes infested with the Indian grain moth which is also called the Miller moth, Mealy moth and Grain moth. Some people mistake these moth larvae for weevils but weevils are the larvae of beetles.

On the economic plus side silk worms, the larvae of the Bombyx mori moth, produces 250 million U. S. dollars worth of silk each year.

Moths have been major contributors to studies in evolution. A famous example is the Peppered moth of Great Britain which supports a population of black and grey speckled moths and a population of black moths. While the bark of its host trees were lichen covered the speckled variety of peppered moths dominated the population. As industrial pollution killed the lichen and the tree's bark turned black, the black variety became more plentiful.

It should be pointed out that the Emerald Ash Borer that is killing millions of Ash trees in Michigan, Northern Ohio and now in Southern Ontario is the larval form of a beetle, not a moth.

Human curiosity cannot ignore the fact that humans most often encounter moths at night circling or resting near a light source. Why? We ask. The most widely accepted answer is that some moths navigate using celestial bodies like the moon to keep track of where they are going and how to get back. Since the moon is far away and moves slowly through the sky it is a fairly stable guide, even if the moth has to make a few corrections to account for the moon's movement. A light source close to the moth, if he kept the light, let's

say, over his left shoulder, would cause the moth to go in a circle around the light. Making corrections, allowing for the slight movement of a light source that is stationary, could make the circles get tighter and tighter, drawing the moth toward the light, until he finally reaches the light. In Britain, where moth censuses have shown that moth populations have been on a decline for several decades, light pollution is cited as a major contributor to the decline.

Many, many moths can live only in the presence of a single host plant species such as the Goldenrod Gall moth. They may use the host as food or shelter or to camouflage it from predators. Occasionally a combination of two specific plant species will be needed to house, feed or camouflage two stages of the moth's development. Many species of moths occupy very small and specialized niches. In many cases moth species disappear because the chief host species, upon which that species is based, disappears. If a plague hit the oak population of the world then acorn moths would disappear because the larval stage of the acorn moth lives in and eats the meat of the acorn. The same would be true with the Goldenrod Gall moth which depends solely upon the Goldenrod wildflower for its existence. To assure its survival as an order the various species must constantly experiment with new techniques of reproduction, survival tactics, food sources and camouflage. Some moths lay thousands of eggs in one place and the larvae spread out in all directions from there. Some larvae, like the Inch worm, can crawl from place to place, eating vegetation along its way, and, incidentally, finding possible new food sources if it cannot find the food it usually requires for survival. If conditions are right a new species might evolve from one animal eating the wrong thing but surviving, when other members of the species would be killed by the new food. Other larvae cannot crawl at all and must survive where the egg is laid. Such eggs are often laid one at a time but in hundreds of locations. If the eggs of a plant specific species are strewn about the environment some will end up on the right plant and some will not. If one of those eggs lain on the wrong plant survives it may begin the process of creating a new species.

Lewis Carroll once wrote something to the effect that if you don't know where you are going, any road will get you there. Nature must try every possible road. In the case of the moth nature treats a whole order much like we traditionally view a species. In an order where dependency upon a very narrow niche leaves a species vulnerable to the extinction if the niche is destroyed, then survival of the order depends upon occupying as many niches as possible. Rene Dubois, in his book, So Human an Animal, described the conditions under

continued on page 18

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Letter to the Editor (Cont)

He only has so much in the tank, and he (understandably) needs to devote it to the Highlander Newspaper.

the Loop (Griffith, Matawatchan, Denbigh, Vennachar) has helped out in one way or another, and it has been greatly appreciated.

I would like to personally thank those who have generously donated their time and money to the Hall. It's impossible to mention everyone's name, however; I feel compelled to name a few: The Township of Greater Madawaska, who's financial assistance is much appreciated, Joey MacPherson, Sally Buesch, Many Waters Métis Community, The Griffith/Matawatchan Fish and Game Club, every business in

I would like to finish by saying; "thank you" to my friends and neighbours of the Village of Matawatchan for allowing me the opportunity to serve our community. It has meant a lot to me. I'm confident some new volunteers are among us for the upcoming terms.

Sincerely,
Douglas Vasey
President, Matawatchan Hall

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answers on page 23

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The Hooter Room

By Louise Szabo,

It was spring, the weather was perfect and we could hardly wait to get up to the cottage to enjoy our new screened in porch. Finally we would be outdoors and protected from the pesky black-flies. At least that is what we thought. Surprise! Surprise! What the heck happened? Holes. Big ones. In every screen of the porch. Also present were calling cards from the raccoons. The evidence pointed to a large family. S---

It was easy to figure out what had happened. It was our fault. We forgot to lock the porch door going onto the deck and a raccoon must have accidentally leaned against the door springing it open. And they marched right in. Only an educated raccoon would know how to pull open the door to get back out. They were literally trapped. Raccoons being ingenious creatures had simply clawed at all the screens in their attempt to get out. What a mess. In more ways than one!

The following week Chris Sykes came to the rescue installing new screens on the porch. We were back in business. From then on every time we went up to the cottage instinctively our first duty was to unlock the porch door and check the screens. What a relief to find them all intact.

We soon noticed that slowly but surely holes started to appear in the screens— little ones. Beak size ones. Having screens on three sides of the porch birds figured they could fly right through. Wrong. You would think that they would have more sense but no. Their beaks holes testified to sudden stop.

Out came my curved needle and some gray thread and the patchwork began. My mending blended in quite well but after a while every screen looked like a strange piece of art. You could get cross eyed if you looked through the screen at the wrong spot. We started thinking about replacing our screens.

Moths (Cont)

which an animal can evolve. First there must be a characteristic of the animal's environment which, if the animal could take advantage of it, the animal's survivability would be enhanced. Second, there must be an evolutionary change the animal could make that would allow it to take advantage of the advantageous environmental characteristic. Third, the animal must recognize the advantage and must aspire toward it in personal desire and personal practice, if possible. Fourth, the mutation must have occurred that allows the animal to practice, with benefit of genetic memory, that which gives him an advantage. Last, the animal's advantageous genes must be passed on to later

One weekend we got to the cottage to find all the screens in tatters. Again. Now what? Evidence. A red squirrel lay dead in the middle of the porch. Next to it, hawk feathers. We deduced that a hawk had grabbed the squirrel from the deck railing and being too close to the porch both of them went right through the screen and landed inside. I can just imagine the panic of that hawk as it struggled with the screens in order to get out. He managed beautifully. Chris Sykes, always on call, came to our rescue. Again

Once the job was done the porch looked brand new. We realized that unless something was done to protect the screens in a few years we would have to do it all over again. Heck! A few years? Maybe the next day. Who knew? We thought about hanging CD's to distract the birds but I wanted something more decorative. We thought about getting the silhouette of hawks but a black silhouette did not appeal to me either. Besides I didn't think that the birds would find it a distraction at all. We needed owls.

Pattern in hand I headed to the craft shop to get thin soft foam. Being the, lets have fun with this, type of person, I cut out owl figures, punched in eyes and used fabric paint to colour in the feathers and wings. We strung them up on the screens and enjoyed watching the wind twirl them around. Silently I prayed that it would work.

Every weekend we were thrilled to find not one hole in the screen. Weeks went by. No holes. Months even. No holes. The porch looked kind of cute with all those different coloured owls— two in each of our eight screen panels. Beautiful! Best of all, it worked.

I could hardly wait to show the owls to my friend Lorie visiting from Toronto. She took one step inside the porch looked around and shouted to her husband, 'Robert. Robert. Come and see the hooters.' In his haste to see my 'hooters' Robert suddenly tripped over his feet. Thank goodness he regained his balance inches from destroying the screened porch door. Scary! Who says my owls don't work?

End

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16th ANNUAL MADAWASKA VALLEY STUDIO TOUR - SEPTEMBER 29 & 30

In September signs of autumn abound: birds congregate on wires, trees display brilliant colours, and those bright red Maple Leaf Signs for the Madawaska Valley Studio Tour appear on local roadsides.

Each Maple Leaf sign will lead you to one of the 20 studios and 27 artists participating in this very popular art tour. Every year on the weekend before Thanksgiving talented artists and craftspeople of the Madawaska Valley area open their studios to welcome visitors, neighbours and friends from near and far. They have their best new work ready for viewing and for sale, and some of the studios are open for this weekend alone. This is truly a great opportunity for you to view an amazing variety of top quality original handmade art and fine crafts. With glassblowers, potters, jewellers, painters in watercolour, oil, pastel and acrylic, woodworkers, weavers, ironworkers, soapmakers and photography there is bound to be something to capture your imagination. Many studios will be offering demonstrations to share with you their creative process.

Two new artists this year are Clark Guettel, one of Canada's best known glassblowers, and Janet Moore a recognized painter who recently moved here from the Yukon.

One of the established artists on the Tour is Tim Beckett located at Turtle Tim's Art Gallery and Studio on the Scotch Bush Road near Douglas. Using line drawings, Tim creates compositions primarily of nature related themes. Oil paint is then applied in his own unique form of pointillism. Tim is just one example of the many talented artists on the Studio Tour.

History aficionados will appreciate seeing many original settlers log structures that dot the tour's roads, especially on the old colonization route, the Opeongo Road. The picturesque village of Eganville, the roaring waters of the Fourth Chute, and the historic hamlet of Wilno, Canada's first Polish settlement are but a few local attractions along the way. Enjoying the tour in the autumn means relaxed driving on quiet roadways and world class fall colour displays not ordinarily experienced by summer residents and tourists. The Madawaska Valley area is known for its rugged splendour with scenic lookouts at Wilno, Foymount and Combermere.

This free self directed studio tour can be started at any point by simply picking up a brochure at restaurants, retail outlets and tourist booths throughout the area. The colourful guide has a

large map with directions to each studio and an example of each artist's work. The sponsors and advertisers in the guide not only support the studio tour, but also offer local goods and services that you will find very useful.

Many visitors take the entire weekend to fully enjoy the experience, indeed many return year after year. With so much original art and fine crafts and so many interesting artists and artisans, combined with the variety of geographic and scenic opportunities, it is hard to fit it all into one day.

For additional information, individual galleries of the artists with contact information, studio tour news, links to useful area resources and clear detailed maps to download, visit our easy to navigate website WWW.MADAWASKASTUDIOTOUR.COM

So set aside the weekend of September 29 and 30, pack up your car with some friends and come on the Madawaska Valley Studio Tour. We hope to see you this fall.

End



Dan Hill of Hill Pottery just south of Wilno

Cottage Corner

Ode to a (Dead) Mouse

By John Roxon

“One of the simple but genuine pleasures in life is getting up in the morning and hurrying to a mousetrap you set the night before.” Kin Hubbard (1868 - 1930)

American humorist Frank McKinney Hubbard understood the satisfaction of seeing your carefully baited trap bear fruit in the morning. Those amazing creatures munch and mingle their way into our cabins, cottages, trailers and sheds which to them is a five-star hotel, replete with an all you can eat buffet. What makes it even worse is when they choose your cottage - the cottage that you take great pride in; diligently maintain year after year; try to keep clean, tidy and comfortable.

In many cases the cohabitation between man and mouse can be a fairly benign one. Keep the food protected and to a minimum, make sure there are no easy entryways and keep clothing and bedding in plastic bins and your rodent problem will be one of minor inconvenience at worst. This was the general tract we were following in the first couple of years of cottage (and mouse) ownership.

But something happened to change all that. It was the perfect summer's evening, with a nice breeze and very little humidity. Our guests from the city, Michael and Dana, were visiting, enjoying the quiet. Water was frantically boiling on the stove in anticipation of a nice spaghetti dinner with home-made meat sauce. Dana, wife Julie and daughter Lindsay were all in the kitchen preparing dinner. Dana was tidying up, putting things in the garbage when suddenly something inside the bag moved. There was another, more deliberate movement. Peering inside, Dana saw "it" and screamed. Julie, startled, and holding a handful of dry spaghetti also screamed. Lindsay, seeing the mouse scamper from the bag, got frightened and screamed as well. Lindsay's scream scared Julie, which caused her to scream again and drop the spaghetti all over the floor. In the melee, Julie jumped back from the garbage bag slipping on the spilled spaghetti which you can imagine was about as slick as a floor full of marbles. Julie grabbed the stove for support as she was landing on her arse end, causing the stove to come off its castors and some of the hot water to splash on the floor, the walls and Julie's leg. This resulted in yet another row of screams.

The decision was made quite quickly after that. These smart, cute, incredibly destructive little creatures with relatively poor eyesight who like to share

the comforts of humans must be exterminated. But how?

You can choose what many retail grocers use to control their mice and that is glue traps. The next morning you'll find live mice stuck in glue - now what do you do? You're faced with killing a defenceless live creature or disposing of it while still alive. Unless you're an axe murderer on vacation, this is hardly a viable alternative. Actually, years ago and even today in some parts of the world, people do eat mice. They're a good source of protein. So would you gingerly remove the little feet from the glue, or would you have to cut all the legs off. And what would you have with your mouse? Tossed salad; assorted steamed vegetables; rice pilaf? Not an entirely appealing course of action especially when you can just as easily buy a pack of burgers at the local IGA and not even consider where they came from.

Another device for mouse control is the ultrasonic rodent repeller. These gizmos produce a high pitched sound, undetectable by human ears, that supposedly has the same effect on mice as fingernails on a chalkboard have on us. The problem being, that after a while, the mice not only get used to the sound but positively revel in it, dancing and twirling the night away to these electronic pulses.

There is also any assortment of so-called "humane" traps, which allow you to capture the mouse alive and uninjured. The question again is; what to do with this live mouse? Adopt as a pet? Feed to your pet boa constrictor? Encourage your cat to use as a plaything? No, what you would have to do with the live mouse, if you really craved a humane answer to your infestation, is to put every mouse caught into the front seat of your car, and drive 20kms or so to release into the woods. Humane on one hand but how long would anyone want to be a mouse chauffeur?

There are others who swear by mothballs or mint oils - which may be fine if you want your entire eating and living area smelling like, well, mothballs and mint oils. With that much malodorous scent floating around, guests would soon suspect that you were trying to cover up a much greater evil.

Which brings us to the only real method that works consistently - if somewhat gruesomely; the ubiquitous mousetrap. I had a guest at the cottage some years ago who used to be head of agriculture on a kibbutz. He laughed at my 3 or 4 little traps I had on hand and instead suggested that I set up an entire trap line, similar to what the early fur traders had to do to catch the beaver which was coveted in 18th century England for its lustrous coat.

Theoretically, here's what works the best: Go to Wal-Mart and buy 47 packs

of Victor traps, 1 kg of Kraft chunky peanut butter and a pair of rubber gloves. Carefully put peanut butter on each trap - be sure to place it as securely as possible because these rodents have a light touch and can easily clean a trap of bait without setting it off.

Then, adroitly, place the traps twelve inches apart at a 45 degree angle to the wall with the bait closest to the wall. Then wait. As mice are nocturnal creatures, all your trapping will be done at night. With luck, in the morning you'll find that you have 20 traps that have been cleaned of bait, 70 traps still exactly as you left them, 3 traps that have been mysteriously set off, and one - maybe - containing a dead mouse.

My reality is much different, of course, as it usually is. Inevitably, sometime during the night I'll wake up to have a quick snack. In my stupor I weave my way into the kitchen and stumble onto a trap - SNAP! Then reel around into

another trap - SNAP! Finally awakened by the pain, I hop on one foot - yup - right onto a third trap - SNAP! In the morning I have three throbbing toes, 20 traps cleaned of their bait and not set off and the remainder sitting as I left them. Meanwhile a pair of amorous mice just reproduced and in less than a month I'll have an additional five, or so, mice to get rid of.

It's at this point I've realized we should just leave the cottage to the mice, clear some land a hundred feet away or so and build ourselves an airtight concrete bunker. The mice will be happy to have our old cottage all to themselves and our family will enjoy many years vacationing in our mouse-free airtight concrete bunker by the lake.

I welcome any and all comments about how to live happily with mice. Please email me at cottagecorner@explornet.com

End

Richard Gill: a forty year journey

Forty years ago, Burnstown clay-relief sculptor Richard Gill travelled through Europe on a Vespa scooter. By the end of the journey he had visited 26 countries and travelled 22,000 kms. Along the way he sketched a 30 foot scroll, one continuous drawing of images that caught the eye of a curious, adventurous young 22 year old student of architecture.

This year mark's the 35th Annual Fall Show of sculpted clay-relief by Richard Gill. The works in this year's show were inspired by this scroll and other drawings that he drew on that trip. The Netherlands, West Germany, Italy, France, Spain, Morocco, Greece, Czechoslovakia, Portugal, Turkey & Poland were just some of the countries he toured. The

landscape and architecture of those countries that intrigued his youthful mind and were rendered in pencil then have now captured his imagination once again and have been morphed into clay through the eyes of a mature artist. To commemorate his 35 years in the Ottawa Valley Richard has also sculpted a whole new series depicting Valley landmarks along with some new lamps.

The show opens 11 am on Friday the 28th of September at Burnstown's Bittersweet Gallery and continues daily 11 to 5 pm through Monday the 8th of October.

Richard and his wife/ Bittersweet Gallery owner Cheryl Babineau look forward to hosting visitors and patrons of the gallery.



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The Local Yokel

By April Cappel

If a tree falls in the forest, and nobody hears it fall, does it still make a sound?

If you live in Griffith, perhaps you might be one of the few people in Renfrew County educated enough in "life among the trees" to be able to wager a guess at this age old question!

Nestled among acres, upon acres of forestry, this little corner of the Canadian Shield is home to many businesses, and many more people than its deceiving appearance lets on. At least, this is what I learned while enjoying a personal tour of the area with Bill Graham, resident and editor of the Madawaska Highlander, a couple of weeks ago.

Our tour began at "Pine Valley Restaurant". This is Griffith's only real "eat in" restaurant, although there is a Milano's at Rapid's End for the fast food enthusiast.

However, I was very comfortable sitting in the diner. It's fresh paint, and yet rustic charm are the perfect display venue for a vast number of local artists and crafter.....then of course, there was that blueberry pie! One glance at the menu, and I made a mental note to make a return trip, sooner rather than later!

After that we stopped into the only store I have ever really noticed, only because I find it to be a novelty, in a community that seems not to be large enough to warrant it. I am of course, referring to the rather large Hardware Store, right on Hwy 41. This store is a testament to the strength of this community. And, if Sue Lafleur is any indication of the local mind set surround-

ing the importance of "Buying Local", then this community has a strong and bright future ahead.

I was rather sad to hear of some of the issues surrounding this local economic pillar of the community. You see, because of Griffith's remote location within the county, they are limited by couriers, telephone service companies, and as of late, delivery from one particular supplier was about to be downsized.

This decrease was not due to lack of demand from her store, but perhaps more a reflection of a supply company's efforts to cope with rising gas costs perhaps? Sue mentioned this action was going to affect others within the county, but because of her remote location, the economic impact for her could be potentially devastating. If a customer had to wait an extra day or two for a product, that increases the chances of

them leaving the area all together to find what they are looking for. I understood her fear, 100%!

After talking with Sue, I met the Lacourse family at the Mini Mart, and then travelled to Rapid's End before taking on the few minute trip down the road to the Eagle's Rest.

Hidden on Centennial Lake, the largest and most underdeveloped lake in Eastern Ontario, is the Eagle's Rest. This fabulous little "Gem of the County", owned and operated by Steve and Gayle Main, offers fantastic fishing and hunting! Steve told me the best "catch of the season" so far sported approximately 100 bass, caught in one day. Fact or Fish tale? There is only one way to know for sure.....check out this fabulous hide-away and see for yourself! I am sure you won't be disappointed!

After the Eagle's Rest, it was off to meet Richard Copeland and his lovely wife for a tour of their completely self sufficient "off the grid" beautiful home.....but that is a topic for another story!

If you would like more information on Pine Valley Restaurant, Griffith Building Supply, Rapids End, or Lacourse Mini Mart, please check your local listings.

For more information on Eagle's Rest, please check out www.TheEaglesRest.ca, or phone 613.333.2713.

For more information on the Buy Local in Renfrew County Campaign, please email the Local Yokel at buy_local@nrtco.net

End

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One Ballot, Two Votes

On Ontario's next Election Day, October 10, 2007, there will be a referendum on a recommendation for a "Mixed Proportional System" for Ontario. This recommendation comes from the Citizen's Assembly on Electoral Reform. The Assembly identified three objectives it felt an electoral system should achieve:

1. Voters should be able to indicate their preferred candidate and their preferred party.
2. The number of seats a party wins should more closely reflect its share of the party vote
3. Each geographic area of the province should have at least one representative.

On the ballot each voter can vote for a candidate to represent their riding plus vote for the political party that they prefer.

The following elements are part of the new system, which voters will be asked to vote on in the referendum:

* Voters get two votes on a single ballot: one for a local candidate one for a party.

* The party vote determines the total share of seats a party wins in the legislature. If a party doesn't have enough local members elected to match its share the party vote, it is compensated with list seats. These seats are filled by members from a party list who are elected by voters province-wide through the party vote.

* Local members continue to be elected as they are now.

* The Ontario legislature is made up of 90 members elected locally (70J, of the legislature) and 39 list members elected province-wide (30% of the legislature) for a total of 129 members. Each party nominates a list of candidates for the whole province, and candidates are elected in the order in which they appear on the list.

* Before the election, parties are required to submit their lists, as well as the details of the process they used to nominate their list candidates to Elections Ontario. Elections Ontario will publish this information widely.

* Candidates may run in a local district, be on a party list, or both.

* A party is required to have a minimum of 3% of the party vote across the province in order for candidates from its list to be elected.

* Seats are allocated to parties using a formula (the "Hare formula") that divides the total number of party votes by the total number of seats in the legislature.

* If one of a party's list seats becomes vacant between elections, for any reason, the vacancy is filled by the next available person on that party's list as submitted for the previous election.

For full information on the "Mixed Member Proportional System, visit the Citizen's Assembly website at: www.citizensassembly.gov.on.ca Copies of the report *One Ballot, Two Votes*, can be obtained by contacting: 1-800-267-8097.

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Ladies Only

By Susan Veale

Hot flashes; depression; low sex drive; irritability. Do these symptoms sound familiar?

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Hormones are chemical messengers that travel through blood, enter tissues and give cells information so they can function properly. Health problems may arise when one or more hormone levels fall outside the normal range.

Hormone imbalance may be a result of illness, or may produce symptoms and biochemical changes that eventually lead to illness.

Saliva hormone testing may reveal hormone imbalances that contribute to chronic health problems like insulin resistance (pre-diabetes), breast cancer; thyroid dysfunction, polycystic ovary disease, adrenal dysfunction, estrogen dominance, and androgen (i.e. testosterone) deficiency. Saliva hormone testing can also be used to monitor hormone replacement therapy (HRT) and is often used in anti-aging and disease prevention programs.

Saliva hormone testing reports the results for each hormone, and whether the range is for premenopausal, post-

menopausal or for women who are supplementing with hormones. The report also provides an interpretation of the results.

Some common hormone conditions include weight gain; depression or difficulty with coping; irritability; sleep disturbances; hot flashes; bone loss and breast cancer.

Good health for everyone is more than just good food; good health is about balance. The right balance is one of work, play, nutrients in the diet and hormones.

As a health care provider, I recommend saliva hormone testing when indicated as the interpretation of the test results provides valuable information for treatment options which may include natural rather than synthetic hormone replacement therapy, lifestyle changes or nutritional supplementation.

Susan Veale BSc.

Wellness Natural Health Centre
613-752-1540 www.mylysis.com

Answers

9	4	5	2	1	6	8	7	3
7	8	2	3	9	5	1	4	6
3	1	6	4	7	8	5	2	9
8	2	3	6	5	1	7	9	4
6	9	1	8	4	7	2	3	5
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1	3	8	7	6	4	9	5	2
2	6	7	5	3	9	4	1	8
4	5	9	1	8	2	3	6	7

ERNIE'S MUSINGS #4

By Ernie Jukes - Camp J

BULLISH

As a wee tad of about four or so years of age visiting my grandparents in Napanee it was my job to go for the cream towards the end of each day. This was a terrifying task due to having to pass through my Great Grandfather's cattle herd. Up McCabe's Hill, which contained the biggest, blackest, meanest looking bull that apparently there ever was-anywhere's! Miserable old Gramps Miro was no sweetheart either. Well as time went on and I got to doing some reading and travelling I not only found out why the Bull has this awesome reputation but also why they have been specially selected by peoples around the globe to be part of their history and mythology.

Due to these huge beasts' strength and tenacity and obvious leadership of their often-large herds they have been revered through the ages. The ancient Minoans painted them on the walls of Knossos. If you explore the Greek islands you will see how the Bull had the respect of kings in their architecture and statues throughout the lands around the Aegean Sea—the cradle of western civilization.

It's interesting to note that through the ages the bull became a symbol for many groups including Germans from the provinz of Mecklenburg and the Scots, Clan McLeod from Isle of Skye. In the new world he became the seed of our great cattle herds and a hit at our Western rodeos. So much so that Canuck livestock now provides most of the best beef to the world. A farming uncle said "your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong. Another said "keep skunks, bankers, lawyers and bulls at a distance". The

bull and its high standing was everywhere. From the wild Canadian version and the big game hunter's prize—the Bull Moose—to representing sports teams on their jerseys like the Belleville Bulls. And names of places such as Bull Mountain, Big Bull Bay or Bullsover and even nicknames of boxers like "wild bull of the pampas".

Years ago while jogging down Frontenac Road, as I neared the trail to McLaren's Lake, I heard the most desperate and forlorn bellow of a bull. Rapidly following the sound down the steep bank to a pond close to what is now Dunn's log cabin, I discovered a large animal right up to it's neck in quicksand, sinking by the minute. Instantly realizing it was impossible to help it on my own I raced back toward Matawatchan to Postman Davey Carswell, whom I knew had a jeep. Minutes later we had slipped a rope past it's bulging eyes, down its neck and dragged it free of sure death. The previously dangerous animal suddenly took on a whole different attitude and meaning to me.

Of course the Spaniards brought a specially trained type of bull to the rings of Mexico, attracting huge crowds for centuries. The sport today seems to be waning in popularity while pertinent slang within our language is growing. From the Brit's "bullish wot?" or "bullderdash", we can bulldoze our way into "aw bull-" and as you know that's another interpretation of "fabrication", which is more at home around Ottawa--but we are not going there today. You can probably expand on this fascination and fear with the stubborn beast ...there are no doubt many bovine experiences right here in our valley, and when we hear them you can say--"no bull, eh"?

End

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