Volume 8 Issue 3 Free August 2012

Storm Lashes Calabogie Area in the north-west at Round I

By Bill Graham, Editor

Severe thunderstorms in Eastern Ontario last week resulted in thousands of homes without power due to downed trees and power lines. Greater Madawaska sustained significant private property damage. Most heavily affected areas are portions of the previous Townships of Bagot & Blythfield; especially the Norway Lake area. Miraculously, no major injuries or fires resulted from the many downed trees and hydro lines.

Early reports indicate the storm was an "unusually large Macro Burst" wind with no evidence of tornadic activity thus far. Flat line wind causes different, but just as devastating damage, as seen by this latest storm. A downburst is created by an area of significantly raincooled air that, after hitting ground level, spreads out in all directions. When the downburst exceeds four kilometres it is called a macro burst. When the macro burst stretches into the tens of kilometres it is called a Derecho, which means 'straight' in Spanish and describes a widespread convectively induced straight-line windstorm.

While the storm impact was most felt

in the north-west at Round Lake and as far to the south-east as Clayton, the most severe damage was in a north-west to south-east line from Highway 132 through the Norway Lake area to White Lake.

The storm struck the Calabogie area just after supper on Monday (July 23) and the first 911 call of many were received around 7:05 p.m. Greater Madawaska activated their emergency response plan late Monday afternoon and within approximately one hour of the first call had Public Works, Fire, Ambulance and Police all working together to ensure the safety of residents.

By approximately 01:30 on Tuesday July 24 most of the area roads were passable thanks to the efforts of Public Works and Fire crews from both the County and the Township. Major routes into Calabogie (County Roads 508 and 511) were severely hit and sections had to be closed and traffic re-routed. The Norway Lake road was only made passable on Thursday (July 26).

Hydro crews are working diligently to restore power as quickly as possible. On Monday night there were over 17,000 customers without power in the Arnprior Works Region of Ontario Hydro. At this point 1,517 are still with-

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Photo: Glenda McKay



Photo: Donnie McAlear

The History of the Matawatchan Community Memorial Centre: Part 1

By Karin Lehnhardt

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of articles that will tell the history of our community centres. The first covering the Matawatchan Hall is divided into two parts due to considerations of space in the July Highlander. The Matawatchan Hall history was written back in 1995 and reflects the history up to that date. The histories of other centres in the township will follow in successive issues of the Highlander.

The Matawatchan Community Memorial Centre is known locally as the Matawatchan Hall or just The Hall. In 1952 the land for the Hall was donated to the community by Billy MacPherson and Bill Dunn.

A committee of residents from Griffith and Matawatcahan was formed in 1953 to build the Hall. After much discussion, no agreement was reached.

In early 1954, Mr. Pete Kelly of Matawatchan called Mr. Johnny Thompson. Mr Thompson, originally from Matawatchan and previously owner of the Matawatchan Store, had a construction company in Renfrew. Mr. Kelly asked Mr. Thompson how quickly a hall could be built in Matawatchan and couldn't believe the answer of six weeks.

Mr. Johnny Thompson forged forward with his project. He applied for a grant for the building of the hall and received approximately \$1,700. Mr. Thompson then applied for and received a permit to cut logs across the river on crown land. The logs were sawed and some were used in the building of the Hall and the remainder were sold for approximately \$800. This money also went into the fund. Donations of money, labour and lumber were collected from the community. Johnny Thomp-

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TOTAL FIRE BAN: Enforced by Heavy Fines



Rural Gas Closings: USA vs. CAN

By Roma Standefer

THE IMPACT OF ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS ON RURAL GAS STATIONS: AMERICAN AND CANADIAN RESPONSES TO THIS ISSUE

By Roma Standefer

Editor's note: Roma Standefer is an Oxford PhD researcher and consultant, based in Ottawa, with twenty-five years of experience working for eight Canadian government departments and agencies. She is also a new contributor to the Madawaska Highlander.

The serious issue of rural gas station closures has not received the kind of publicity needed to make the general public aware of what has been happening in Canada. The only media article on this issue that has appeared recently is one in June, 2011 in the Globe and Mail: "Jerry Cans are the New Gas Pumps in Cottage Country". This is an article on the closing of gas pumps at a large number of marinas, not only in Ontario but elsewhere in Canada.

The main cause of these closures is the high cost of implementing new environmental regulations relating to the underground storage tanks that have to be used to store gasoline. This is a cost that can be crippling to the owner of a small marina which often has limited business and usually only seasonal customers who buy its gasoline for their boats.

Implementing these new regulations, usually in the form of removing and replacing the underground storage tanks (USTs) at a cost that can be in the tens of thousands of dollars, is not a problem limited to the owners of marina gas pumps. It has also become a serious problem for the independent owners of small rural gas stations. These are businesses with small sales volumes and often even smaller profit margins, despite the fact that they may be vital businesses in their communities and the only source of gasoline for miles. If the pattern that has been found in the Madawaska Valley, where numerous gas stations have closed in the last ten to fifteen years, is prevalent in many other parts of Canada, the issue is a matter of national importance.

While many rural residents may be lamenting the closure of gas stations in

their immediate area and the effect it is having on their own lives, few are likely aware of the fact that this has been happening nationally. In fact, approximately 40% of Canadian gas stations closed between 1989 and 2000 according to a study of the Canadian retail gasoline industry and the role of environmental regulations by two University of Alberta researchers, Heather Eckert and Andrew Eckert in 2010. This situation was not unique to Canada as many gas stations in the United States also closed between 1980 and 2000. In both cases, there appears to be a direct correlation between the introduction of environmental regulations and the closures. It is at this point, however, that there is a contrast between responses to this problem in the United States and Canada.

From the very beginning, the Americans recognized that the cost of implementing the new regulations requiring gas stations to upgrade or replace their underground storage tanks would be prohibitive for many small independent owners and operators of these stations. As a result, starting with the Environmental Protection Agency and several other departments at the federal level and supplemented by many more at the state level, a series of programs were created to help small, independent gas stations, many of which were rural, to have access to funds to help them meet these requirements, thereby making it possible for them to stay in business. These programs made low cost loans available to those owners/ operators who met certain criteria. The major criteria was usually that of financial need. Another criteria could be the importance of the gas station to the local community. Washington State, for example, created a program of loans and grants specifically to assist small, rural and remote gas stations to remove and replace their underground storage tanks so that they could not only meet the environmental regulations but also stay in business.

There were also programs created to deal with the problem of leaking underground storage tanks (interestingly dubbed LUST programs by the EPA). Loans were made available to gas station owners, usually on a cost recovery basis to help them deal with the problem of cleaning up soil that had been contaminated by a leak from one or more of their USTs.

In contrast, when Canada introduced environmental regulations in the late 80s and 1990s, (the actual date varies from province to province), there were no corresponding government programs at either the federal or provincial level to help the small, rural, independent gas station owner. While gas stations that were part of large national

chains like Petro Canada. Shell and Esso were large enough to absorb the cost of the upgrades required, this was not possible for many of the smaller independent stations. As a result, many closed. In 1991, there were approximately 20,000 gas stations in Canada. By 2010, according to the "National Retail Petroleum Site Census, 2010" published by M.J. Ervin and Associates in 2011, there were only 12,710 stations left. Ontario had approximately 5,000 gas stations in 1991. By 2010, it had only 3799 left. Regrettably this census does not indicate the number of urban closures and the number of rural closures, a fact which would be very helpful to know. It does not indicate whether or not these stations are part of a large national chain or independently owned and operated; another fact which would be very helpful to know.

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The Madawaska Highlander

Co-publisher and Editor
Bill Graham 613-333-1694
Co-publisher and Advertising /
Design Manager
Adam Copeland 613-333-1841

Mailing Address:

The Madawaska Highlander
C/o Bill Graham
1837 Frontenac Rd
RR#3 Griffith
Matawatchan, ON K0J 2R0
Email:

highlander_editor@xplornet.ca

Advertising and Design: Adam Copeland 613-333-1841 madawaskahighlander@gmail.com

Contributors

Garry Ferguson
Mary-Joan Hale
Wes Bomhower
John Neale
Ernie Jukes
John Roxon
Antonia Chatson
Robbie Anderman
Susan Veale
Filipa Martins
Lois Thomson
Pete Chess
Bill Jukes
Howard Popkie

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History (Cont)

son collected donations from all businesses that he dealt with in Renfrew. A raffle was set up for a draw on a camera, a 22 calibre rifle and a blanket with all proceeds going to the Hall building fund. Finally, \$1,000 was borrowed from Hack MacPherson.

Work started on the building of the Matawatchan Hall on April 19, 1954. Much of the lumber was donated by Mr. Johnny Thompson and Mr. William Thomson. All labour was volunteer, with the whole community involved. Mr. Johnny Thompson brought his own construction workers to Matawatchan. He paid their wages himself and donated his and their time to the Hall. Ben Pennoch donated two weeks labour and Basil Thomson donated three weeks labour. All other community volunteers donated what time they could spare.

The Matawatchan Hall officially opened on June 11, 1954. The word memorial was added to the name in memory of war veterans. On the day of the opening a turkey dinner was served with a dance, entertainment and draws. I have been told that Mr. Thompson and others were still laying the floor one hour before opening. The siding was put on later in the fall of 1954.

City Girl

Farewell to Fiona

by Filipa Martins

Once upon a time there were three little pigs. They were my three little pigs. They were black, sleek, bouncy, squeaky and very curious. They were not content with the boundaries of their yard - er.., that is my yard. Their intelligence compelled them to pursue adventures outside their patch of land. To boldly go where no pig had gone before (places such as my neighbours' vards and the church lawn). I can hardly look back in humour as their transgressions were reprehensible and a source of stress for me.

Eventually, the three little pigs matured beyond their rebellious adolescent ways and settled into a quiet, laid back routine. They were content to dig and root in the quiet of my back forest and wait for their breakfast and dinner that was cooked for them and their whole family daily on our wood fired cookstove. One little pig went to market and then there was a mating pair who the kids named "Shrek" and "Fiona". They lived happily and soon the first litter of piglets were born. Piglets are adorable and we all want to hold and cuddle adorable things. Piglets, however, go into a mad squeeling frenzy as soon as their tiny feet leave the ground. They are so



Matawatchan Hall

Since the Hall was owned by the Community of Matawatchan, a board was elected. The first board consisted of Mr. Basil Thomson, Mr. Johnny Thompson, Mr. Ben Pennoch, Mr. T.J. McLellen and one councillor. At that time, Mr. Thompson turned over the Hall books to Mrs. Jack MacPherson. All bills and the loan had been paid and there was a balance of \$200 in the Hall bank account

For almost 20 years the Hall was run by an elected board. It was used for community events (e.g. The Picnic) and community meetings. No rent was charged for these community functions. Later, dances were held every Saturday night beginning with the long

loud we all giggle and pick another little one to lift off the ground and greet them. Fiona was a trusting mother, with great maternal instincts and comfortable with our presence near her babies.

Fiona gave birth to many piglets during her years with me. Her offspring were sold to other food producers who seek this endangered rare breed of Large English Black pigs. They are hardy, calm, and thrive in outdoor pasture. They have become rare because they cannot thrive in the conditions of large commercial pork production. Living in a small confined indoor cells. Further, these pigs grow slowly, taking over a year to reach adult size.

When we decided to to downsize, Fiona was going to be the first to leave us. She had become the controlling matriarch of the bunch and as such made her dominance clear to the others far too forcefully at mealtime. I decided that her time had come. As a food producer it was the best business decision. This year I launched my new mobile pizza business and I wanted to offer all meats such as Italian sausage, bacon and beef from my farm. I have been present at the abattoir before to pick up meat. This was my first trip taking the live animal in. This was no ordinary animal. She was part of the

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weekend in May and continuing until hunting season. These weekly dances were held for years with a live band and square dancing called by Wilfred or J.B. Varrin. Originally the Hall had a wood furnace and a wood stove in the kitchen. Benches were used for seating and were placed along the walls. A few years later an oil furnace was purchased.

In 1973 the Matawatchan Hall was placed under the charge of the Township. The name was changed to the Griffith - Matawatchan Hall. The reason this was done was to qualify for recreational grants for repairs to the Hall. A member from the United Church Women's Association (W.A.) was appointed to sit on the committee.

In 1974 a L.I.P. Grant was received and in 1975 a 56 foot by 16 foot addition was added to the Hall that included indoor washrooms. Donations of money towards this were received from cottage owners, hunt clubs and local residents. I was shocked to learn the cost of this addition. According to a May 1975 Communicator, this addition cost \$10,000 in materials and \$17,000 in labour. The Communicator was the local community newspaper of the time.

Community Yard Sale

Once again a community vard sale is being planned for

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Rural Vignettes

THIS OLD HOUSE

By Antonia Chatson

The house itself was monstrous. It was built entirely of fieldstone, and since the walls were two feet thick, they used a lot of them. It made one wonder what the landscape must have looked like before the construction of the house, as there remained still enough evidence on the 100 acres that a glacier had passed by in the far distant past. Instead of pointing the stone on the outside of the house thus enhancing the varied shapes of the stone, the builders had smoothed the cement between the stones. Then they put lines of lighter cement in rectangular shapes to make it look as if the stones had been hewn. As the walls were two feet thick, so were the window frames. When we eventually got curtains, I would delight in pulling the curtains shut, then sitting in the window frame with my knees drawn up under my chin. I gave my father many a scare when he would try to find me. I fear I loved to tease him by not answering, then would mysteriously appear later on after he had already searched the room for me.

One third of the way across the house, under the wall that divided the kitchen from the parlour and which continued towards the back door, a retaining wall of stone had been built in the cellar. There was a doorway in the middle of it but no windows in the far part of the basement. This dank, cold and dark area terrified me to death. I think we were all rather fearful of going in there, for I cannot recall any of us going in there with a lantern or flashlight. Because of the support underneath the floor of the parlour and one wall of the downstairs bedroom which was beyond the parlour as you can in the front door, the floors in those two rooms had remained fairly level. But the kitchen floor was another matter. From the front door to the centre of the kitchen, the floor sagged badly, then rose again as it approached the small pantry beyond the kitchen. There was such a slope to the floor that, when I was a little girl, I was able to coast in my wagon from the front door to the pantry, the dip in the first part of the floor giving me enough momentum to ascend the rise to the pantry. Even then I had to apply the brakes or I would have had a collision with the pantry door. Despite the dip in the kitchen floor there was a as a six inch high lump that ran along one side of the kitchen, due to frost heave. Many an unsuspecting visitor tripped over this. As we were so used to raising our feet over this obstacle, we often forgot to warn any newcomer. Walking in the kitchen was rather like progressing along the deck of a sailboat in high seas -drunk!

My father poured two cement pads in the cellar on which he put two steel braces, which he would jack up a few inches every year. I think the only result of his actions was to prevent the floor from descending into Hades, as it did nothing to correct the pitch of the floor or lessen the pitch of the floor, or lessen the height of the speed bump.

On one of these pads my mother put an oval, copper wash tub with a lid, and into this we would put milk, eggs, butter and cheese to keep them cool. On top of the steps leading into the cellar was a heavy trap door which had to be raised and secured in position by means of a wooden latch before anyone could descend into the lower deck. As a little girl, I was always afraid that the door would fall shut when I was down there, making me a prisoner of the bogey man who resided beyond the stone retaining wall!

Upstairs there were four very large bedrooms, the master bedroom being twice the size of the other three. There were only two very small cupboards in it and in one other bedroom - about two feet wide. I could only assume that since they had spent so much money on building a mansion of a house, they had no money left for even clothes! But maybe they used wardrobes in the other rooms. Two of the rooms were heated by stove pipes, one coming up from the kitchen stove and another one ascending from the stove in the parlour. The master bedroom was heated by means of a small register cut in the floor, allowing heat from the kitchen to ascend through it. Through this I could also observe the comings and goings of those below. The last bedroom had no source of heat whatsoever. I presume that this room was reserved for intrepid Arctic explorers. The ceilings of the rooms downstairs, as with all old farmhouses were irrationally high. The pioneers may have been smart people in some fields but they seemed oblivious to the simple fact that heat rises. The ceiling in the kitchen was black from decades of smoke. We did eventually paint the walls, but we left the ceiling as a monument to the past.

At the back of the house was a pile of stones that had once been a summer kitchen. Outside the front door,

there had once been a veranda with a balcony above it. The balcony was long gone so the upstairs door leading out to it, now led out onto six rotting pieces of two by fours. One step out and you would take a header, so we called this door the "suicide door".

Being made out of stone, the house was gloriously cool during the summer, but it must have taken a phenomenal quantity of wood to keep it hot in the winter.

The house had been built by the Looby family who were, ancestors of our good friend and neighbour, Elgin. A story was told that one night the man of the house went to the barn to do chores and died of a heart attack in the barn. He must have left some doors open doing the chores or else they had a remarkably smart horse, for the horse got out of the barn and went to the back door of the house. He banged on the door with his hoof to get the attention of the Missus. People said that the marks made by the horse's hoof were still visible on the door, but I could never distinguish them from others scars of time.

And yes - the house was haunted and not just by a horse!! I never saw or heard anything tangible, it was just a feeling I had about the place. Maybe it was because the house had been left vacant for so long, that it just got used to it and did not want to be disturbed. I always felt as if I were intruding upon

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MOVING TO THE COUNTRY

By John Neale

While it would be expensive to substantiate using StatsCan data, there is growing anecdotal evidence that boomers are moving to the country in droves! In this piece, we interview boomer couples who have recently made the move to the Griffith/Matawatchan/Centennial Lake area. This article explores the reasons for their move, what they like best about living in the country, as well as some of the challenges they face.

Many boomers yearn for the sense of community that they grew up with in the fifties and sixties. This sense of community has arguably been lost in our large urban centres. However, in the smaller towns, villages and hamlets of our vast country, the sense of community is alive and well.

Rural areas in Canada do face challenges of their own (e.g., rising transportation costs). These challenges are exacerbated when big city solutions are imposed on rural areas by government edict with no thought to how they will impact the rural way of life (see article Out Of Gas in the May Highlander!).

Nevertheless, there are many urban boomers who are beginning to wonder if they would be better off in the country. Many boomers have already made



the leap to live in the country. Here are some of their stories.

Gil and Diane moved to the Centennial Lake area from Toronto in June of 2006 on Father's Day. It was Gil's idea but Diane didn't need too much convincing after retiring from a stressful management job in Toronto. Gil had some familiarity with the area through hunting and fishing trips.

Prior to living in Toronto, Gil lived in a rural area outside of Almonte where he gained experience living with wells and septic systems. Unlike Gil, Diane had no prior experience living in the country. She grew up outside of Boston, Massachusetts.

In 2005 they started looking for a retirement home. After high pressure jobs in Toronto, they were looking for a four season waterfront property to retire to. They started looking north of Toronto, but the area was already far too expensive. They redirected their search to Eastern Ontario including the Rideau Lakes, White Lake and Frontenac County. The place they eventually

found on Centennial Lake was movein ready, very quiet, reasonably priced. Diane admitted that, "Compared to Toronto, Centennial Lake is totally off-the-grid!" Gil was concerned that Diane wouldn't be able to deal with the remoteness of the area. But Diane wanted peace and quiet too and fell in love with the silence... especially in the winter! When they first moved to Centennial Lake, they were the only permanent residents on their road. Now there are seven couples who have either already moved or are planning to move there.

Retirement triggered the move and Gil was keen to get out of the city. Moving to the country required some adjust-Diane observed, "You can't get anything delivered out here from the city and there are very few services... we can't get someone to clean our chimney! They won't even come to do warranty work on our washer/dryer... we have to take them into the city!"

Gil and Diane go to Ottawa every six weeks or so to do some shopping and visit Gil's mum and brother. Diane also frequently travelled to the Boston area to look after her mother and visit with her daughter. However, her mother recently passed away and she won't need to go nearly as often. They also visit

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"Read cover to cover"

BUILDING SITE SECURED FOR SENIORS HOUSING

The Greater Madawaska Seniors Housing Corporation efforts to establish Seniors Housing in Greater Madawaska is one step closer to realizing its goal.

Over the past few months the corporation reached out to the community and solicited expressions of interest from individuals, contractors or organizations that might be in a position to assist the corporation - by providing land or services at a reduced cost. As a result several people have volunteered services and land in Griffith has been secured.

We are most encouraged by the community response to our solicitation stated Bill Beacham, President of the corporation. As a non-profit organization our success may well be determined by the response of the community. In our early stages we were looking to Government to provide funding through programs such as The Affordable Housing Program used by organizations in other areas to establish Seniors Housing. While we have completed the necessary studies, compiled the statistics to support the need and developed and submitted a comprehensive proposal to Government it may be some time before additional funds become available through the Affordable Housing – or a similar pro-

Dear Editor,

My wife and I are motorcycle riders from Ottawa who spend a lot of time in Calabogie and beyond, We picked up the issue (May Highlander) at Munford's a couple weeks ago and I wanted to let you know it was a great read, I think I spent more time on it than on the average Citizen, or Sun, or Montreal Gazette, all of which I read on a regular basis.

It was particularly informative because of the fuel situation. I had remarked to many people the number of small outlets that I have seen close in recent years — Middleville, Vennachar, Bow Lake to name a few. This is relevant to us as with a small range (250 km) on some bikes it can become dicey between stops. We were heading to Parry Sound the first weekend in July so your issue came in handy as it mentioned that the 41 Stop was fuel-less for now, so we altered our strategy by stopping at Munfords, only to find their fuel truck was late. Changed the strategy a

gram. As a result the Corporation has reconsidered the process it will employ – and revert to community fundraising.

Our initial plan was to establish 25 units in the Calabogie and Griffith area. We will now look at doing so in a phased approach—starting with 5 units in Griffith. The proposed site is excellent—we are in the final stages of signing an agreement with the owner and an announcement will be made in the very near future as to the donor and exact location.

This fall will be a busy time for the corporation as it moves secure funds available to start construction in the spring. An annual meeting will be held in the September or October and the fundraising campaign will be launched. As a non-profit organization the Board of Directors are all volunteers and are always looking for new members. If you are interested in learning more about the operation of the Corporation – have experience with community based organizations or have skills you could bring to the Board or perhaps are interested in joining a committee we would like to hear from you. For more information in the Griffith area please call Pat Holleran at (613) 333-1229 or Bill Griffith in the Calabogie area at (613) 752-2201.

Ena

bit and stopped at Eagle's Rest, which got us to Carnarvon, where I know there will be gas as it is a franchise op on ON 35. I'm interested to see that documentary (they had a poster of it there) as although I had seen effects I was unaware of the cause – any idea on where/when it can be seen?

I also gave the article on mining claims to a neighbour who has been involved in that archaic legislation for years in a dispute with the government.

Good work, I hope you get the support you need to continue.

Frank Kevins End

Looking Back....



MacPherson, Thomson, Troke, Kekl - Log housey

The Next Step in Waste Diversion: Clear Bag Program Out of consideration for any one or sol

By Bill Graham, Editor

Since 1987 the Government of Ontario has been encouraging residents and municipalities to divert household waste. The amount of waste being created was becoming unsustainable as the population grew. The government has enacted a number of initiatives to achieve the province's goal of diverting 65% of household waste in Ontario by 2016. These initiatives include blue box recycling, deposit return for bottles, municipal composting, hazardous waste disposal, waste electronics and tire recycling. Today, Greater Madawaska, with a waste diversion achievement of only 25% has a way to go yet to reach the provincial goal. The intermediate goal for the township is to reach a 50% waste diversion rate.

A next step in moving toward the 65% goal is the Clear Bag Program. As of November 3, 2012 all bagged garbage going to any waste disposal site in Greater Madawaska must be in a clear (transparent) bag. The clear bag is to prevent recyclables and hazardous waste from ending up in the landfill. Not everyone is voluntarily participating in the recycling programs so their participation will need to be enforced.

Out of consideration for peoples privacy, one opaque or solid coloured "privacy bag" full of garbage is allowed to be placed inside the larger clear bag. The "privacy bag" can be no larger than 20 inches by 22 inches, which is about the size of a grocery bag.

More detailed information about the separation of landfill (clear bag) waste and recyclable (blue box) waste will be contained in the Madawaska Messenger in early October.

There is no limit to the number of bags that you bring to the waste site but they must be clear and transparent (not tinted) and you must purchase your own bags. The Township has teamed up with TIM-BR Mart Griffith Building Supply in Griffith and Calabogie Home Hardware in Calabogie to implement both the Clear Bag and a Backyard Composting Program. Clear bags can be purchased at these retailers and vouchers for a discount on the purchase of a blue box (\$5.00); a backvard composter (\$20.00) or a kitchen composter container (\$5.00) can be redeemed with them. The vouchers plus a questionnaire will be mailed out to all property owners with the fall tax bill in September. It should be noted that, at this time, the vouchers are only redeemable at these retailers.

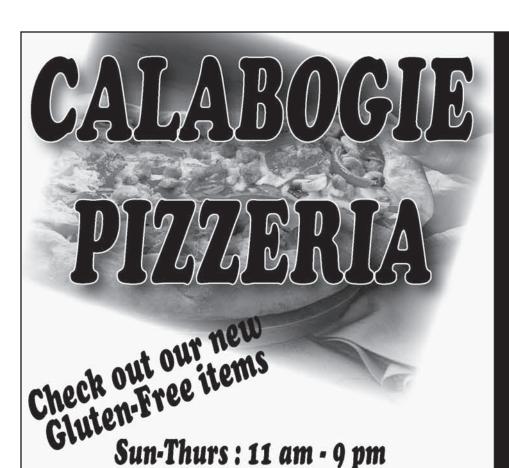
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Clear Bag (Cont)

The township receives around \$25,000 annually from Waste Diversion Ontario to help finance programs like blue box and clear bag. Consequently, this is money that doesn't have to come from property taxes. If the township cannot show due diligence in enacting the waste management programs, that money will be withdrawn and taxes will go up.

A further incentive to encourage good disposal practices will be directed at new home construction in Greater Madawaska. These new home owners will receive a free blue box, backyard composter and kitchen compost container when they receive their building permit.

The 'promotion and education' part of the township's initiative begins in August with three public meetings. Greenview Environmental Management, the township's consultant on these matters, will host meetings between 6 p.m. and

City Girl (Cont)

beginning of my pork venture. Through the bumps and craters of Matawatchan Road my attention is focused on the trailer and how it handles the weight of two pigs. They laid down when we started off and remain lazily dozing off during the drive.

One more turn and we are on the final road. There is a lump in my throat. My eyes fill with tears. I let myself go to that place inside I had been ignoring this entire trip. I am saying goodbye to an animal that has been part of our daily routine. She has contributed to the farm with her rooting and tilling of land and with her reproduction. She was always destined for pork production, not a pet but I see that I cannot really separate the two things. Not at a time like this anyhow. We park, open the trailer gate, wake them up and ask them to follow me to their abattoir pen. Unbelievably they comply calmly. I tell them thank you and good bye and manage not to look like a crying child in front of the butcher. Inside the abattoir processing floor I review the cuts I want: chops, loins, sausages and yes, lots of bacon. Food production is my chosen business and I maintain focus on the details. I have to do so, otherwise a flood of ethical questions about life and death will torture me all the way home.

After all these years away from the city, this country life has allowed me to witness the life cycles of the animals I care for. I am there for their births and also have to to play a part in their deaths. I am not, however, the only one out there decided when my animals time is up. We also have to fight with

8 p.m. in Griffith at the Lion's Hall on August 8th; in Dacre at the DACA Centre on August 22nd and in Calabogie at the Calabogie Community Centre on August 30th. At these meetings they will outline the clear bag program and answer questions from residents.

Implementing this program will not happen overnight. People will need to adjust to the new program and the township will be forgiving during the first few months. If you do not comply after November 3, the site attendant will provide you with additional information about the program and accept your garbage but there will come a time that you will need to comply if you want to use the waste site facility.

Ultimately this program will benefit you, your grandchildren and the environment. Good luck, it will be a learning process for all of us.

the wild animals that share this land with us and see farm animals as an easy meal. There are few tasks more terrible than having to destroy a beautiful wild fox, or be forced to dispatch of a pesky racoon. If you don't they will inevetibaly return again and again until they have taken them all. It is during these difficult times that I realize how I connected I am with nature now. In order to produce food I am constantly having to do battle with other creatures, whether it be the insects, brids of prey or the mammals. I imagined growing food to be a harmonious process here in the country. I now see that I am part of a more complicated system. When the time comes for an animals fate to be decided, be it mine or wild, it is done so with a heavy heart.

Dropping off Fiona was the first drop off of many, which will take place this summer, as I decided to terminate my pork production for awhile. The second drop off was just a few days ago because I was sold out of sausage. We raise our own meat to ensure they live in a natural environment. So many of us who are not vegetarian often avoid linking the thought of meat with a once live creature, I certainly did not like to go there in my mind. Are you comfortable with going there in your mind when you buy meat? It isn't an easy thing to think about. I feel contentment when I see my pigs, chickens and cows freely outside digging, bathing, scratching and grazing, eating the balanced diet they are meant to under the sun. When it is time for them to go into the freezer, I feel pleased to have provided the best life I could for those valuable animals. After all, their health means our health.

Enc



PUBLIC MEETINGS Clear Bag Program

Learn about the next steps in raising the Township's waste diversion rate.

This program, which will be implemented on November 3, 2012, will affect everyone

August 8: Griffith Lion's Hall Griffith 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

August 22: DACA Centre Dacre 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

August 30: Calabogie Community Centre Calabogie 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

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Community Calendar

CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE

GRIFFITH AND MATAWATCHAN

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

Memorial Service at Matawatchan CommunityCemetery August 26th at 3:00 p.m. Pastor Dave Tubby Officiating

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

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

DENBIGH AND VENNACHAR

Vennachar Free Methodist Church 424 Matawatchan Road 613-333-2318 Sunday Worship 10am

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

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

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

Burnstown

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

CALABOGIE

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

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

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

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

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Public Meeting for Clear Bag Program August 30 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Calabogie Community Centre

August 17 to 19: Blues & Ribs Fest at Calabogie Peaks, sponsored by Calabogie Peaks Resort and DAWG FM, contact 613-752-2720 and www.calabogieblues.com

August 25: Imagine! End of Summer Party for Ages 3 to 12– Hand out awards / Ice cream sundae creations / Sidewalk Chalk games from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm at The Library in Calabogie, sponsored by the Library

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

Mega Yard and Bake Sale Entertainment & B B-Q August 2, 2012 on the grounds of Most Precious Blood Church 10:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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

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

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

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

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

Dacre

Public Meeting for Clear Bag Program August 22 – 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. DACA Centre

August 25: Softball and Volleyball Tournament at the DACA Centre in Dacre and for more information Kristie Coulterman 613-649-0115

Griffith & Matawatchan

Matawatchan Community Market Saturday morning until Sept 1 from 9 a.m. to noon Lunch served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Community Yard Sale Saturday August 4 -Plan to bring a table & set up All are Welcome

Bake & Rummage Sale Saturday August 4 – 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. St. Andrew's United Church Matawatchan

Denbigh – Griffith Lion's Club Bingo Bingo August 7 and 21 Public Meeting for Clear Bag Program. August 8 - 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Lions Hall - Griffith

5th Annual Show & Shine Denbigh – Griffith Lion's Club August 25, 2012 – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Lions Hall Highway 41 Griffith

August 4: Annual Pig Roast from 4:00 p.m. onward at Pat & Cliff Holleran's, Hutson Lake Road in Matawatchan, sponsored by the Griffith & Matawatchan Fish & Game Club

August 11: 50/50 Take Bass Fishing Derby, from 6:00am to 6:00pm at the Centennial Lake Boat Launch, sponsored by the Griffith & Matawatchan Fish & Game Club

continued on page 20

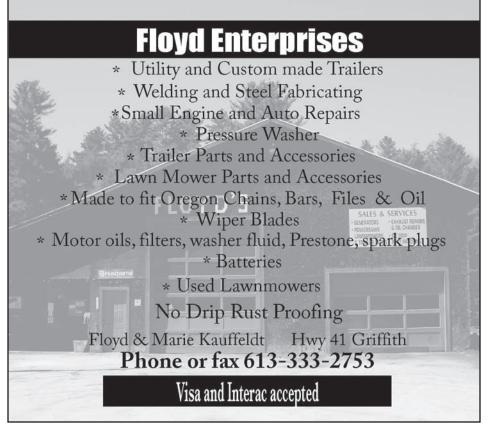


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Griffith and Matawatchan News

By Garry Ferguson

No folks! The folks at the township are not opting for transparent garbage bags (November 03 this year) to make it easier for us pensioners to grocery shop. It seems that they have a much less sympathetic motive: they must try to keep those-who-must-be-obeyed at Queens Park from becoming unhappy enough to turn up the heat and turn off the \$\$ taps. Greater Madawaska is about to use some friendly persuasion in order to improve our poor ratio of recyclables to land-clogging household garbage at our waste sites. The township has to increase our recycling participation from 25% (in 2010) of total waste to 50% initially and then to 65% to meet the provincial government's eventual target. A public meeting, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Griffith Hall on August 08, 2012 should bring us up to date on the project.

Hopefully, all our readers have received the notice announcing a TOTAL FIRE BAN across the entire Township of Greater Madawaska and the consequences for those who do not comply. Within a week of moving permanently back to this area, fifteen years ago, some careless smoker threw a welcome fire that proceeded to crown in our white pines. Only the arrival of two cousins, who helped keep the flames contained until a pump arrived, prevented a disaster that would have resulted in some kind of record for the shortest period of residency in Matawatchan's history. Needless to say, (write?) I was relieved to see the total ban considering the tinder-dry conditions with no sustained wet weather in sight.

There are to be "no fireworks, campfires, incinerator fires, patio burners or other outdoor burning of any kind. Propane BBQ's and <u>smokers</u> are allowed but must be guarded at all times until dead out and cold with lots of water for suppression." I'm one hundred percent for such measures, however, the "lots of water for suppression" thing and my penchant for interpreting directions literally did cost me a friend who was a smoker. I'm told he recovered well once they got the water out of his lungs.

There are fines for non compliance plus a cost recovery at an average of \$2000 per callout if in response to a 911 call. That's got me so unnerved that I'll have to screw up my courage just to start a fire in the wood stove come November.

The folks at the Camel Chute Campground had great weather again this year for their Annual Fishing Derby and Supper. Fifty-eight youngsters and 90 adults (old youngsters) registered for the Derby and 200 participated in the pot-luck supper. I never would have guessed it, since all my friends from the campground - better known as The Trailer Park Boys - are keen sportsmen, but according to my math, there are people in the park who evidently prefer eating to fishing. For the Junior Class, Dominique Bouchard walked away with a first, McKail Holcomb a second and Makayla Menard, third. The three firsts taken in the Adult League for bass, walleye and pike were by Tyler Philp, Jacques Lalonde (he gets lots of practice) and Bill Brazeau.

Organizations around the (snicker) rest of the town have planned several inter-

Matawatchan Market

Fresh Produce
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Brick Oven Breads

Lunches
Lunches

Lunches and more !!!!!!

Up Coming Lunch Menu

August 4th at 11:00 a.m. till 1:00 p.m. Market Lunch & Wood Fired Pizza

August 11th at 11:00 a.m. till 1:00 p.m. Three choices of Quiche with German Sausage With Salad, Drink and Dessert \$7.00 Also German Sausage On a Bun with all the fixings Mild or Hot \$5.00

> August 18th at 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Market Lunch and Wood Fired Pizza

August 25th at 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.- Mystery Lunch

Made with many local ingredients and alwaysFresh and tasty!!!!!!

Sat 9am-1pm until September 1

esting events that deserve a check mark on the August page of your calendar. The Lions' big Show and Shine car show will take place at the Lions Hall

in Griffith on the afternoon of August 25 and the Griffith & Matawatchan Fish & Game Club will host the Annual Appreciation Pork Roast – 6 p.m. - and the 2-p.m. Redneck Golf Tournament at the Hutson-Lake-Road Hollerans on August 04. The Bass Fishing Tournament is planned for 6 a.m. on Saturday August 11 at the Centennial Lake boat launch. Registration sheets containing the "Rules and Regulations" may be obtained from Brian Sutcliffe, (613 333 9564) Dave VanIderstine (613 333 9564) or on line at fishandgameclub@gmail.com. There's probably a rule somewhere on that sheet that prohibits the stuffing of a fish's belly with rocks. Anyway, it hasn't worked that well in the past – at least not for me.

The Eagle's Rest

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Monday—Saturday 9 am—8 pm Sundays 9 am—6 pm

Memorial Service

a

Matawatchan Community Cemetery

August 26th at 3:00 p.m.

Pastor Dave Tubby Officiating

Behind the tunes

By Peter Chess

Chess Records

The south side of Chicago, during the post war years, was home to hundreds of jazz clubs, or juke joints, as they were called on the street. They sprung up on every block and provided an escape from the harsh realities of being black in America, years before integration. They were a place to get a drink, maybe score some reefer, find love and get down to some hot music. That music was rhythm and blues, brought north with migrant workers from the deep south, seeking work and a better life in the burgeoning industrial belt of the Midwest, with Chicago at the epicentre. It was a place few whites dared to venture, although some of the clubs were owned by whites, two immigrant brothers, Polish Jews, Leonard and Phil Chess bought their first club in 1938, drawn by the desire to succeed in America and by the music itself. Says Ralph Bass, a Chess employee since 1944, and who is credited with discovering James brown...soul brother number one..."You gotta remember one thing, there's a close tie between the negro and the Jewish people. There's an affinity between blues and Hebrew music. I hear that blues in

a minor key, and hey baby, I'm back in the synagogue.

"Chess records grew out of the club business, the last of which was the Mocamba Lounge. Leonard Chess first got the idea for recording when a Hollywood agent came one night to listen to a singer named Andrew Tibbs. "So I thought, if he's good enough for Hollywood, I'll put him on a record myself." That first record became a fair sized hit and encouraged Leonard to turn his garage into a studio, where he hung a mike and a loud speaker at either end of a sewer pipe to create an echo effect, which was similar to the sound Sam Phillips was creating at Sun Studios in Memphis. Leonard also liked a heavy drum beat, and between these two sounds he created the signature of what was called "Chicago Blues". Their target audience at that time was strictly for Negroes and was called in the industry "race music"

Until 1950, their label was known as Aristocrat, but was changed at the suggestion of a southern distributor to Chess Records. When the studios began to garner some good income, the brothers sold the club and went full time into the record biz. There was no place else to go for a black man to record his

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The Healing Tree

By Robbie Anderman

ASH (Fraxinus)

Ash is a name worn by a few different trees, most notable of which are the White Ash, Black Ash, and Red Ash. Most popularly known and used is the White Ash, whose wood is used whenever strength and lightness must be combined with elasticity, such as for tool handles and baseball bats. Red Ash wood is similar to White Ash; Black Ash, which grows in moist and swampy soil is a bit different. When wet, the Black's narrow growth rings can be pounded loose into slats from which strong baskets can be woven.

Only the Red Ash has been used for food. The Ojibwas scraped the inner bark into fluffy layers and cooked it into a meal that is said to taste like eggs. As a medicine this bark is taken as a tonic for general fatigue and depression.

The seeds of the White Ash have been eaten by peoples but only as a medicine. Wildlife eat them as part of a regular diet. People have found their qualities to be aperient, diuretic, and aphrodisiac, and have used them for intermittent fever and to prevent obesity.

All three Ashes have a reputation in one place or another as a preventative for venomous snake bites. Native Americans and European Gypsies found a decoction of the buds or bark or leaves (1 tsp steeped in a cup of boiling water for 30 minutes and 2 - 4 cups drunk per day) of the Black and/or White Ash taken internally to be a remedy against rattlesnake and adder bites. The leaves can also be applied topically to the wound. Northern tribes used to carry White Ash leaves or wear the bark in their moccasins as an anti-snake talisman. The pioneers continued this tradition by making cradle rockers from Ash wood, a tradition that survived even into the 1930's.

In a similar vein, the leaves of both the White and Red Ash have been rubbed on mosquito and other insect bites to reduce the swelling and itching.

The juice of the White Ash that oozes and drips out the end of a green log when it is burned has been taken internally and applied externally to cure a canker. A few drops of this juice placed in the ear has been used as a treatment for earache. In the case of deafness a strong infusion of Goldthread (Coptis

continued on page 20





Storm (Cont)

out power and we understand that these are all within our Township. The Norway Lake area is not likely to get their electrical power back until Wednesday (August 1).

The focus of the township and that of Ontario Hydro has been completely on restoring power and removing debris so that poles can be replaced and power restored as quickly as possible. 140 hydro linemen and approximately 60 hydro forestry workers have come from Quebec and across Ontario to assist

Property damage, especially in the Norway Lake area is extensive. Mayor Emon described the damage as biblical in proportions. Hundreds if not thousands of trees are down and as many as forty homes and cottages may need to be demolished. Councillor for the Norway lake area Glenda McKay says that on her property alone she has at least thirty trees down but luckily no severe damage to her house. She was one of the lucky ones.

Residents are reminded that the fire ban (no fireworks, no campfires, no burning of any kind) remains in place as the township Fire Department assists with response efforts. The large amount of debris will represent a significant fire risk in coming months. Proper disposal will be very important to maintaining a lowered fire risk for yourself and your neighbours.



Hydro One vehicles lined Highway 508 for days.

Photo: Trudy Norton



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End

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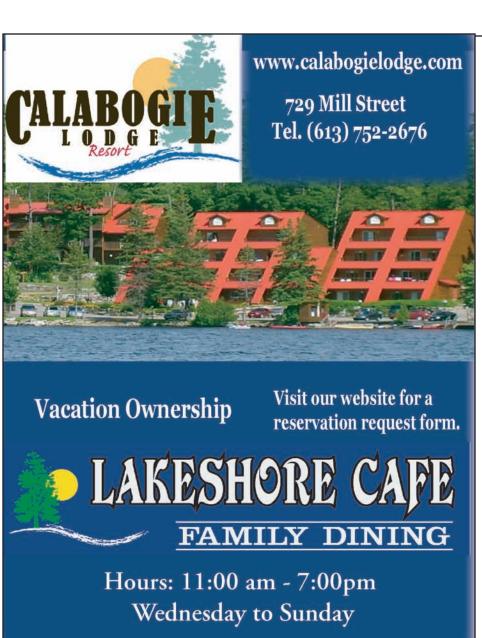
The Little Businessman with the Big Heart



Smitty has donated a new \$1,200 commercial fridge to the Matawatchan Hall. Shown in picture from left: Secretary Ken Birkett, Smitty himself and his helper Art Tryon. Smitty sells a lot of appliances in Denbigh, Cloyne, Northbrook, Flinton, Sharbot Lake, Arden and all areas. Smitty likes putting back into the communities that buy from Smitty's. Smitty says if there is one person that Smitty has sold to in the last 40 years, who is unhappy, please call Smitty. Word of mouth is the best advertising out there. We are selling 15 fridges a day during this hot weather, 6 men are working overtime to keep up with the heat. Smitty hopes the hot weather hangs on.

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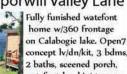
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52 Whipporwill Valley Lane



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6695 K & P Trail



home w/225 ft frontage on Calabogie Lake. Docks, sand beach, screened porch, 3 bdrms. Private location, view of lake &

family oriented. Fabulous surrounding hills. Walk to golf course. MLS #811420 \$449,900

9 Carnegie Cres.



Custom built home plus salon w/separate entrance. Open concept lv/dn/kit, 4 bdrms 4 baths, master ensuite. Distinctive solarium on

wo sides w/ceramic flrs. Possibility for B&B, home business, in-law suite. Zoned ourist/residential. MLS #817024 \$449,900

329A Church Farm Rd.



Calabogie Lake. Bungalow w/hrdwd firs, wood walls & ceilings in open ncept lv/dn/kit ar wall-to-wall windows

verlooking tiered walkway to decks & dock. Separate oversized garage w/sleeping loft & 2p

Mike Labelle



BUILDING LOTS

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- * 3 Dickson Rd MLS #832467 \$36,900
- * 0 Dickson Rd MLS #833893 \$99,900
- * 177 Pheasant Run MLS #829964 \$39,900
- * 13 Bill Hodgins MLS # 820532 \$45,000
- * 0 K&P Trail MLS #829140 \$309,000
- * 57 Viewmount Dr MLS #837089 \$45,000

Calabogie Real Estate

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This Land is our Habitat

Ontario MNR Clarifies Species Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide

"Although biodiversity loss receives less attention than issues such as climate change, it threatens the very lifesupport systems of our planet: clear air, clean water, and productive soil. This is not a problem of some far off tropical rainforest nation or our overfished oceans. Scientists say Ontario is particularly vulnerable to biodiversity decline and has a global responsibility for stewardship.

- Dr. David Suzuki

By Lois Thomson

If you are a landowner in the Madawaska Highlands you might be responsible for a Significant Wildlife Habitat without even knowing it. It is habitat considered to be essential for the survival of an endangered species in Ontario and it's subject to the Endangered Species Act (ESA). This isn't only for lands that have already been formally identified by the MNR in some way. This applies to every inch of Ontario - land, water and air.

What does this mean? Nothing if you aren't planning on significantly changing the land. But if you decide to change it's purpose, perhaps to create a subdivision or build a shopping mall, you will need to contact the ministry to find out if you need a permit. But how do you know what constitutes a significant change or which species to look for? That's what the OMNR is working on clarifying.

Canada was the first industrialized nation to ratify the Convention on Biological Diversity, an important international agreement created in 1992. Soon after, the federal government entered into an agreement with the provinces called the National Accord for the Protection of Species at Risk. This resulted in the creation of the Endangered Species Act in Ontario (ESA) in 2007.

The Act was designed to protect and promote the recovery of species at risk and their habitat in Ontario. At the same time OMNR created the Species Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide (SWHTG) to provide descriptions of wildlife habitats. The trouble was that the descriptions were too general. Developers and municipal planners were having trouble interpreting the rules. If swampy lands support endangered species, does that mean that no field with water on it in Ontario can be used for development? If a certain type of insect is endangered near Hudson's Bay, do all developers in Ontario have to look for it on their land? That's why the OMNR recently broke the province into eco-regions and created criteria schedules for each

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email:

progress and the economy, grasslands, forests, waterways, and wetlands were drained, scraped and dug out all around us. They were turned into commodities for factories, skyscrapers, roads and parking lots. So while the economy boomed the ecology suffered. As humans overpopulated, other species died off. Slowly we learned that the balance of nature includes us. We were destroying our own habitat. It's what the Algonquin and other Indigenous peoples were screaming out about all along. Damming the Madawaska River destroyed plenty of human and wildlife habitat while providing little direct economic benefit at the time, so the economically strapped Madawaska Highlands area didn't entirely escape the effects of progress.

But try not to feel hard done by. Progress is now defined as how advanced we are in adapting to protect our very existence and the people of our area are good at that. Progressive thinkers use rain barrels to harvest rainwater. They plant deciduous trees around the house for shade in summer allowing sunlight in winter. They plant vegetable gardens and don't wash the car. They build using local materials. They car pool. They share tools. They reduce, reuse and recycle. They shop at the dump and they don't drain the rivers they fish in. Sound familiar? Progress is being made today to find ways of adapting the old concepts for use in densely populated, multi-storied cities.

The Madawaska Highlands area is the land that progress forgot, but now we can think of it as a good thing.

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Now developers, corporations and homeowners feel an urgency to change how we think about progress and what it means to own land. A recent Ipsos poll* statistic published in the Ottawa Citizen on July 3 showed that 98% of Canadians don't think governments at all levels are doing enough for the environment. "The natural landscape in particular is deemed by almost everyone — 98 per cent — to be among "Canada's best." "In question after question, it emerges that Canadians cherish the country's landscape and natural environment, and want it protected and preserved, to a greater degree than now occurs. A clear majority - 57% — disagree with the statement that "Canada is doing enough to protect the environment." -National Post, July 3, 2012

Recently, Ontario's proposed omnibus Bill 55 included damaging revisions to the Endangered Species Act. There was such an outcry from the public that at the last minute, the government voted to remove the amendments. People demand change and our politicians have no choice but to listen.

The Ontario government is finally hearing what First Nations people were trying to tell them all along. It is writ-

continued on next page

region. Now only the best and rarest wildlife habitats in each eco-region are considered significant. This schedule is very specific. Instead of painting all regions with the same broad brush, you will know that if you find X number of Y species in Z type of habitat, you will have to adapt your plans for development in the area and if there is no way to avoid habitat destruction, you must get a permit in order to proceed. It makes it simpler for developers. But is it too extreme? Do we care if another species doesn't come back? Isn't this land my land? Is ecology starting to get in the way of economic progress?

With its natural beauty, the Madawaska Highlands area is a great place to live and a great place to visit, but our ecology hasn't worked in favour of our economy. The beautiful highland terrain we enjoy makes economic progress difficult. Our hills are too high and rocky for large scale agribusiness, our rivers too swift for shipping and we have no large harbors. Much of the area didn't get electricity or telephones until the 50's and high-speed internet is just beginning. Are the Madawaska Highlands a pocket of land that progress forgot? Possibly. It all depends on your point of view and your definition of progress.

For decades, progress was synonymous with the frenetic pace of building and construction that took place following the second World War. For the sake of

puravidanutrition@bellnet.ca

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Habitat (Cont)

ten into the ESP Act that local First Nations will be consulted in the permit process. The new ways of thinking, regulations and building methods are a lot like the old ways we still practice here and any person, corporation or government who tries to stop this progress is seen as backward and could be breaking the law. Under the Act, a corporation can be fined up to \$1,000,000 for a first offence if they destroy sensitive wildlife habitat and \$2.000,000 plus a prison term for a second offence. But don't worry, the act isn't aimed at homeowners who want to put on an addition and even then, of over 90 species mentioned in the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Forest eco-zone, we only have 24 Threatened. Endangered or Special Concern Species to watch for, protect and encourage. These are the species whose normal ranges are found in the Madawaska Highlands area.

So yes, the rules are extreme, but only because we forced the situation. Yes, we do care about losing another species (24 that we can name). And yes, this land is our land, but it's also our habitat. It's the habitat that we share with diverse species of wildlife and we depend on them for a living as much as they do on us.

You can learn more about species in Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Forest here:

http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/ en/Business/Species/ 2ColumnSubPage/276503.html

Click on the range of each species to find out if it's in our area, then click on the species to find out more about it's habitat requirements. To narrow your search, start with these species, that we know are protected in our area:

Blanding's Turtle Broad Beech Fern Butler's Garter Snake Cerulean Warbler Channel Darter Ginseng Common nighthawk Eastern Musk Turtle Eastern Prairie Fringed-orchid Eastern Ribbon Snake Eastern Wolf (looks like a coyote?) Golden-winged Warbler Horned Grebe Least Bittern Loggerhead Shrike Milk Snake Monarch Butterfly Mountain Lion or Eastern Cougar Olive-sided flycatcher Pale Bellied Frost Lichen (only in Lanark, Frontenac and Renfrew Counties in Canada) Peregrine Falcon West Virginia White Butterfly Whip-poor-will Wood Turtle

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BRAVE IMMIGRANTS (Part 1)

By Ernie Jukes of Camp J

It was over one hundred and fifty years ago, in a small north European village that an excited Prussian family was preparing to emigrate to Canada. In those days ruling kings and knights could own whole municipalities such as their Gross Gandern, (today's Gadkow Wielki) in Brandenburg. Inhabitants were restricted in many ways, including religion or even voicing an opinion. Taxes kept going up and compulsory military service was lengthened. The future looked bleak indeed.

Here three generations of a close, educated family had read how capitalism in the new world was rapidly outgrowing Europe's suffering economy. They learned how self-expression and most freedoms were common place. Social change at that time in their countries was simply too slow in coming. They had just made a major decision for their growing family...tough as it was going to be on each and everyone of them.

Leaving their heimat in their quaint village with its pleasant brick buildings and cobblestone streets, surrounded by forest and a nearby river was not going to be at all easy. However in typical olden time stoicism they sold or gave away virtually all their worldly possessions to travel light and start life anew in a far off land called Upper Canada. Gone were the forester and carpenter tools and the fine old organ and art materials. Even the bugle horn used in hunting and sadly the many books, toys, and gardening tools...were all left behind.

A few steamer trunks and portable boxes were carefully packed with selected items such as bedding for the voyage, water canteens, cooking pots and cutlery, a few medications, some cured meats, potatoes, as well as warm clothing and hats ...and of course the family bible. They knew they would not be alone as 10,000 others were leaving annually. Not all pulled away by opportunity, but because they were literally being driven out of their native lands. Some came to what is now Ontario for the cheap lands in Bruce County along the Saugeen River. Others they knew went to Renfrew County to settle along the Madawaska River. This familv's previous experience would make them excellent pioneers to clear woodlands, or produce things from wood in their chosen areas near Hanover, and Neustadt, Ontario. This was a big region of forest and water and rocks.

To make their planning even more difficult, just ten months before they would load the wagon from Frankfurt the matriarch Louise was forced to make another huge decision. Her sister died after her husband, leaving three more children to join them. The emigration authority allowed Johanna age 13, Carl age 11 and little Friedrich age 2 to become step children and also make this huge move. Can you imagine setting off on a transcontinental ocean voyage on a small ship, "between decks", with a family now of eleven and eight of them children! Apparently over a third of those taking this perilous journey were families with children...some unfortunately did not survive the trip.

My Great Great Grandfather Johann Christian Jucksch, age 61 actively assisted the parents, Louise age 39, John age 31, to keep their youngsters age 10, 8, 5, 4 and another wee 2 year old... contented and orderly, preparing them for their gargantuan move. Fortunately kids adjust well to new situations. During the long months ahead they all expressed hopeful dreams, often while very weary...but rarely discouraged. By the way...the 8 year old was my Grandfather Ernst, whom I was named after. He became a wood carver, a cabinet maker and furniture designer.

Since the railroad had not been built yet in their homeland area they had hired a large freight wagon which carried the whole family and all their goods for a dollar (Cdn.) per 100 pounds all the way to the giant seaport of Hamburg. Here they had wisely arranged rooms with bath and their ship's passenger tickets which included water and split firewood for cooking while aboard. They sailed in a few days wearing their best clothes, following church service. The men in their loden green and leather vests stood out amongst the many urban passengers. The vast Atlantic lay before them and then or today this would be considered "an ardoures adventure."

Week One: Favourable sunny weather with much time on deck playing games with children. Always a line up for the stoves and toilets. Lights all out by 10 pm. Week Two: Presented stormy alternatives with calm and cooler conditions. Much sea sickness. Difficult to air bedding. And so it went on the 29 day Spring Crossing. They all matured quickly, the older children a great help to their younger siblings, singing and reading kept their love of music and poetry alive. Fellow passengers also helped one another through those long days and nights.

At last during a morning sunrise, there off their bow was wonderful land. A gigantic bright green island they called Newfoundland. Its first record of settlement was by the Vikings in 987AD. It was also called Brendan's Isle after an Irish monk who visited there about 500 years before Columbus was born. Then later in the day they were traveling up the mighty St. Lawrence hardly seeing its misty shores in the distance.

Editor note: Look for part 2 next issue

Moving (Cont)

family in Toronto where they stay in a hotel. "Travelling can be expensive! A weekend in Toronto can cost \$1,000!"

In terms of what advice they would pass on to other boomers considering a move to the country, Diane offered the advice they received from the previous owners: "You need to have a good relationship and enjoy being with each other, and you better know how to cook!" Gil added: "Don't move to the country on an impulse! You are going to need to be more self-reliant. If possible, talk to your future neighbours and find out what it's like to live there!"

After six years in the country, Gil and Diane have no regrets. Diane has learned a lot about being more self-reliant and she is in awe of the locals, who, she adds, "have been so helpful!" Gil agreed, "Local people can give you advice on problems you have, like where to get your tire fixed or any other question you might have." Most of all

they enjoy the peacefulness, the clean air, the wilderness, and the seasonal changes. Gil loves to do things outside and is "thankful to be living here."

Editor's Note: More experiences of boomers 'moving to the country' will appear in successive issues of the Highlander.

End



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Rural Vignettes (Cont)

someone or something when I entered a room. And I always felt I could breathe easier when I went outside. And then there was the night of my encounter.

When I was about 15 years of age, my parents left me alone at the farm for a day as they had to attend a meeting about some other property they owned. They assured me they would be back by supper time. I puttered around after they had left doing chores - bringing in wood and water, emptying the slop buckets and compost, did a bit of refinishing on a chair I was working at, read a bit, brought in vegetables from the garden, stoked up the fire and started supper. I had not put anything on the stove yet and had a little time, so I sat down in the rocking chair in the kitchen for a wee rest. The phone rang. It was my mother saying that they would be home later than expected. So I sat back down in the rocking chair for another rest and read. I must have been there longer than I thought for when I looked up from my book, it was getting dark. I thought to get up, light the lamps and put on supper. But I could not. It was as if I were being pushed back into the rocker. My breath seemed to be squeezed out of me. I thought that if I could just get up and run outside, I could escape, but my legs were water and I was pushed back farther into the chair. I saw nothing to confirm

it, but my feeling was that I was being observed from behind every door. They seemed to be saying, "Now that we have you alone, we'll teach you not to trespass". I remained perfectly still and silent, hoping not to offend anyone. The darkness rapidly increased and seemed to creep out from under the door and inch its way towards me.

Slowly my ears became attuned to a faint sound, although my body was unable to register any response. The sound slowly increased and I realised it was the sound of a car's engine. I could hear it turn into our driveway and proceed up to beside the house. The engine stopped. I heard two car doors slam shut and my parents' voices as they approached the back door. As they came in the back door, the darkness, receded, the sun shone through the windows, mottled from penetrating the lilac leaves - and I burst into tears! Never again would I stay there alone!

Even with the shosties, it was still better than city life, for we could do just what we wanted when we wanted to do it! As my mother used to say, "We're just as happy as if we were right!".

End

Watch your thoughts; they become words.

Litterbugs and other annoyances

By Skippy Hale

Before it was fashionable, my Dad was a stickler for picking up one's own garbage. He instilled a sense of responsibility in the six of us. I remember a picnic when I crumpled up some waxed paper from my sandwich and tossed it. By the time he finished with me I was sure the Mounties would be sending a forensic team to remove me for finger-printing for the crime of the century!

We live in such a beautiful place. Instead of enjoying the flora and fauna while walking through the woods or even down our country lanes and roads, we are accosted by the blight of litter. Remember that Sesame Street episode where Big Bird and others were dropping candy wrappers and other items on Sesame Street? Big Bird said he only dropped one. An adult explained that lots of 'ones' add up to a big mess. Needles-to-say, Oscar was grouchy about missing out on his dollop of trash!

Our house is beside a busy highway and I am constantly picking up debris left by passersby. As I tend to my gardens, I pick up cigarette boxes, wrappers, beverage cups (do we have a Tim's or McDonald's here that I haven't found yet?), pop tins, plastic bottles, beer tins and bottles. Sadly the beer bottles are often broken before being tossed. Animals could cut their paws or hooves.

Today I heard the fire trucks again twice. With the dry conditions, brush and grass fires are keeping our Volunteer firefighters busy. I just cringe when I think of all the dry grass, forests and wooden houses around. One fire in Ottawa took several days to contain. Evidence seems to point to carelessly tossed lit cigarette butts. Neither my husband nor I smoke, but there are butts in my dry grass. So far, there has been no problem...yet. My mother-in-law used to carry a little metal frog with her. When she finished a cigarette, she opened the container, put out the flame and brought it home to be disposed of safely. No fuss, no muss but most of all no fire! John Donne said 'No man is an island'. Whatever we do impacts on others, not just here in Calabogie, but globally. Some of the biggest pollutants in our oceans are cigarette butts washed down our drains into the rivers and eventually out to sea. We will be eating plastic for generations. It does not break down and even when it does, the tiny pieces are ingested by animals. The stomachs of tuna have been found to contain minute pieces of plastic. Birds ingest the floating plastic and feed it to their young who then die of malnutrition, poisoning or asphyxiation Research done by scien-

continued on page 18

Tunes (Cont)

music. Their frequent trips through the south, to market the label, make contacts and scout new talent, resulted in their leasing sides from Sun Records, including Memphis Minnie, Willy Nix. Jackie Brenston, and Chester Burnett, aka "Howlin' Wolf". They also did field recordings of anyone they encountered who had the right stuff. During the early fifties, their top artists were Muddy Waters, Little Walter, Sonny Boy Williamson and Howlin' Wolf. Willy Dixon, bass player extraordinaire and a skilled tunesmith, was responsible for much of the production work in the studio and keeping a stable of sidemen for session work. Other artists who achieved some success and recorded on the Chess label during this early period were Koko Taylor, Sunnyland Slim, Johnny Shines, Eddy Taylor and John Lee Hooker.

In 1955, a young Chuck Berry, on the advice of Muddy Waters, walked into Chess Records. He recorded a country tune known as "Ida Red" and changed the music to a rockin 'R&B number. Chess changed the name of the tune to "Maybelline". According to Chuck Berry's pianist, Johnny Johnson, Maybelline was a joke. "People always liked it, but it was the flip side, "Wee Wee Hours" that we were proud

of. That was our music." Maybelline became Chess's first national hit. They followed up with "Sweet Li'l sixteen" and "Johnny B. Good". Along with Elvis Presley's and Carl Perkin's Sun sides, it signaled the beginning of a new era. After 1955, all musical divisions would become blurred. The pop, R&B, C&W began to "cross over" and the 'race music' that Chess recorded became an anachronism almost overnight.

Savvy as they were, the Chess brothers probably considered Chuck Berry and Bo Diddley, (another walk-in sensation) to still be singing the blues and not really too far removed from their roots. In any event, they failed to cash in on this new wave of 'rock n roll", even turning down an offer from Sam Phillips, who was trying to extricate himself out of some financial difficulties, to buy outright Elvis Presley's contract and the entire Sun catalogue. "We didn't consider ourselves a hillbilly label at that time" says Phil Chess, oblivious to the longevity and popularity that rock'n roll was to have and the irony of white kids becoming the biggest audience for this hybrid "race music". They stuck to their original formula and their stable of blues players. Their golden era effectively ended when, in 1959, Chuck Berry was arrested for a violation of the Mann Act. involving crossing a state line with an underage girl. The ensuing publicity did a lot of harm to Negro artists in large parts of America.

Through the early sixties, Chess continued to record and promote black artists, but with limited success due to the changing market. Berry, Didley, The Moon Glows, The Flamingoes became familiar to white audiences and were able to tour and earn a living. Most of the pure blues players returned to the club scene, or the 'chitlin circuit,' or just gave it up and looked for day jobs to pay the bills. Meanwhile, under the new leadership of Marshall Chess, Leonard's son, Chess continued to look for new faces and talent, eventually moving to New York City. His Uncle Phil left to manage WVON, a radio station in Chicago the brothers had purchased in 1963.

Leonard left Chess to set up his own label "Rolling Stones Records", named after Muddy Waters' first hit record in 1950, "Rolling Stone" that created Muddy's career. That particular recording undoubtedly influenced the direction of the entire course of post war blues recording, signifying that there was a mass appeal to Negro music, including unreconstructed country blues with a real down home flavor. Consider, for a moment, a young Keith Richards, hiding in his bedroom and listening to Muddy Waters for the first time on a scratchy old 78 and feeling the primal power Muddy evoked, sensing perhaps, the possibility of a world unknown, unaware that their paths would cross within a decade, and introduce a new generation of young people to the blues masters of old. This is the legacy of Chess Records..... but that's another

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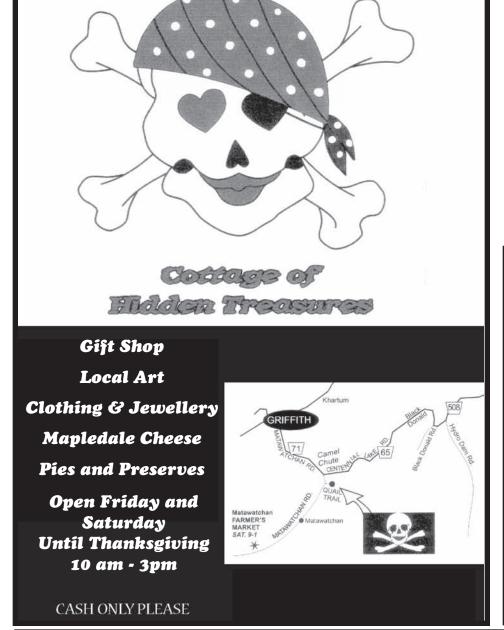
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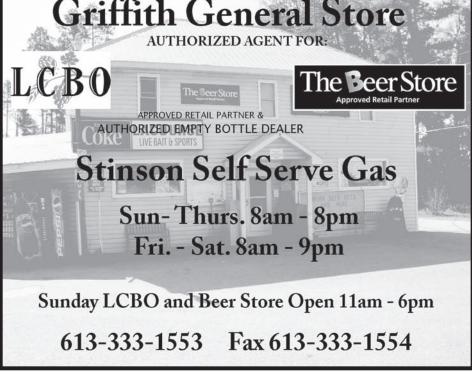
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Up the Line

By Wes Bomhower

TIMAGAMI BOUND

My older brother, Everett, began working for Ontario Hydro shortly after his discharge from the Armed Forces in 1945 and the big utility was still looking for men, so Labour Day weekend in 1947 I returned to Toronto with my brother and was hired immediately. The head push was Ike Ritchie, a big man with one glass eye that seemed to look right through to your soul, and I'll admit, I was scared of him right from day one.

It was quite an experience for a lad of eighteen years who had never been very far from the farm in eastern Ontario

We were a small crew of perhaps 25 men and we were constructing a 115 kv (kilovolt) pole line which ran more or less parallel to Davenport Road, right in downtown Toronto. The second day of work, we were all mustered together to plant a 70 foot pole in the earth with the equipment of the day, pike poles and a raising horse,(a strange contraption designed to hold the weight of the pole once it was partially off the ground,) and it was manned by one strong and very brave lad. Jack Morrow, the foreman in charge, gave us a little pep talk on how to use the pike poles after we took our first lift on the big pole to get the small end off the ground and onto the raising horse. There were some experienced men but some of us didn't have a clue whatsoever. Holy mackerel! I said nothing, but I just knew we would never get that monstrous piece of wood to stand vertical in its respective hole, and if by some miracle we did there would probably be three or four crippled men to attend to. I was wrong! With Jack manning two 'cant hooks' at the base of the pole and two steel bars in the hole to keep the big stick from sliding forward, he barked orders to the rest of us, and ever so slowly, that huge pole was standing upright in its nine foot deep hole.—Amazing!

Word went around quickly that we were going to Timagami, a small vil-



Wes Bomhower (left) with a friend at Hydro Camp along the Nipigon River in 1948

lage in northern Ontario not far from the mining town of Cobalt. More men were hired and the following week found us on the shores of a little nameless lake a few miles from Timagami. A beautiful spot indeed, especially at this time of year when the leaves were just beginning to change colour. Everyone found a bunk to their liking and the tent we chose was situated close to the dining area overlooking the little lake. The bunk tents were fairly large and I believe there were eight men in our tent plus a few empty beds. The first lower bunk inside the door and to the left was occupied by McCabe Tennion, a good natured truck driver from the Renfrew area and the man who slept above him in the upper deck was a lad from Toronto by the name of White but we all called him 'Whitey' because of his extremely blonde hair. Whitey was a hyper kind of guy who never shut up, his mouth running constantly though not saying a great deal. He seldom partook of breakfast and when the big steel triangle was rung at 5:30 a.m., Whitey would lie there cursing a blue streak while the rest of us were getting dressed and heading for the washroom tent. When the second bell rang for breakfast around 6.he would curse some more but refused to arise for another half hour, getting dressed just in time to go to work.

This behaviour continued for a couple of weeks until we received our first pay cheque and Whitey got a ride to town with someone to cash his cheque. He celebrated a bit at the local hotel and next morning he perhaps suffered from a 'big head', so to speak. Whatever, when the first bell rang, Whitey be-

gan to curse, then he bounded out of bed clad only in his under shorts, ran outside, and with one yank he tore the steel triangle from its moorings, then tossed it far out into the lake! Whitey came running back into bed again with an evil grin on his handsome face.

"I fixed that noisy son of a gun and it will never ring again I'll bet". he muttered as he crawled under the covers and attempted to sleep once more.

Well!! When the cook's helper came out to ring the breakfast bell, there was no triangle so he had to beat on an iron skillet to make some noise. We would not squeal on Whitey, but someone crossing the yard saw the Whole performance and word soon reached the big guy himself, Ike Ritchie. We were getting dressed for work later and Ike came striding into our tent looking for the culprit, Whitey, with an angry glare in his one good eye, the other eye staring right through us because it was made of glass. The first thing he spotted was a basin of water with dirty socks soaking in it. "Who do those socks belong to"? he snarled. A quiet man by name of Morton spoke up, "they're mine sir". Ike glowered at him.

"You all know that anything to be washed will be done in the washroom tent. Get your rigging together and get the hell out of here and be on the truck that is going to the rail station. While he spoke, Whitey came on the scene and he received the same treatment. "White, you can go back to wherever the hell you came from and perhaps do whatever you like, but you won't do it here" Ike growled, then stomped out the door.

We were a pretty quiet bunch as we boarded the trucks for work that morning, and I, for one, was still shaking in my boots. I talked things over with my brother that evening and he informed me that those guys were not really fired, but transferred into head office where they picked up whatever wages were owed them and then they had a choice of relocating to another crew in Ontario. Such was life in those days.

Just for the record, Morton did relocate to a crew near Barrie but was electrocuted less than two years later. Whitey, The talkative one, gained employment with some trucking company and I met him just a few blocks west of Toronto's Union Station in 1950. He was still talking a lot but not saying much.

Those were the days!

Next month: MY FIRST TOWER & MAGGOTS IN THE MEAT

End

Litterbugs (Cont)

tists in the Pacific Ocean have found that there are six times the amount of plastic by weight than zooplankton, the main food of small fish. In turn, the small fish are consumed by larger fish on up the chain to those cute dolphins seen playing in the ocean.(http://youtu.be/XxNqzAHGXvs)

It is annoying when you step on a wad of gum, but it is hazardous to wildlife. When birds and squirrels attempt to chew the gum their mouths get stuck and cannot open or close and the creatures starve or asphyxiate.

The Transfer Stations are such an improvement over the previous landfills. I give our Township Council kudos for the clear bag program which will be implemented this fall. For too long, folks have been able to hide recyclables and toxic waste in the black bags. It takes so little time to recycle and forever to clean up our polluted earth and waters. Please take this program

and embrace it. Greater Madawaska is our home and we do not throw garbage in our living rooms, bedrooms or kitchens, so we will not throw it in the beautiful outer rooms we have been given by Mother Nature. We will not bite the hand that sustains us If you love to fish and wish to eat your catch, you will not contribute to the molestation of Mother Earth. If you love to hunt, and wish to eat your catch, you will not contribute to the molestation of Mother Earth. If you wish to enjoy a day at the beach or at your cottage, you will not contribute to the molestation of Mother Earth. Let us all develop a sense of pride and make this the cleanest Township. Pick up your garbage and dispose of it properly at the Transfer Stations. Do not toss cigarette butts. Carry a wee box like my mother-in-law and bring it home for safe disposal.



End

Two Inches of Water

By John Roxon,

The sun came up over the third tee of the course, revealing the unkempt manner of what was once brilliant in its resplendence. Scotch Thistle was just starting to bloom and the primrose was already marring the greens. The grass was cut, mostly, except the different types that grew at different intervals so the whole thing looked sort of jagged. Jack eyed the course nonchalantly, as if the terms of the grooming just didn't matter.

The funny thing is, it didn't, because Jack wasn't on the course that June day to golf. He was there to measure the depth of the water flooding over the ditch on the right of the main fairway. Those couple of inches of water had already cost him in excess of \$250,000, so it was important to him that everything went just right. The engineering reports had proved inconclusive. His neighbour said that the water flowed to his property, Jack was sure that the flow went the other way. Jack and his erstwhile friend, and now just neighbour, Freddy, had been down this road before—too many times.

Freddy wondered, too, what had happened. Was it only a few years past that he and his wife, had offered the men working on Jack's house, lemonade, sodas and the occasional sandwich? How could it deteriorate so quickly? To be sure, they had come to blows a few times and over what? A couple of inches of lousy water. Water that quickly drained as soon as the rains stopped. Big effing deal.

Years before, Freddy and Susan used to walk their dogs on the unfinished property. Where the second tee box is now, Freddy and Susan would have picnics. They were even excited when a new neighbour moved in who looked to be as prosperous as they were. But that was then and a lot had happened in the interim. It's now hard to pinpoint when relations really started to break down and why. Jack took away "their" forest, even though Freddy knew full well that it wasn't really their forest. He and Susan just treated it as such.

An accusing eye could also be cast towards what's-his- name - the gardener. What a piece of work he was. Didn't he threaten Susan once with a shovel? And it sure was more than once that Freddy thought he saw him defecating right on the property line. Yeah, that gardener was trouble. We may never know, but it could have been him that hit all those golf balls where golf balls shouldn't be hit. That was all then, of course, but the then was still very much alive because neither Jack nor Freddy could put it past them and move on.

The court date has already been scheduled. Presumably, there would be one winner and one loser, though in a match so closely contested, there may never be a winner, only losers. Engineers, witnesses and two teams of lawyers have all been lined up to decide the outcome relating to two inches of water that occasionally jumps the bank and floods the surrounding grassland. Susan is tired of it as is Jack's wife. Christine. The girls wish that everyone could get along and that things didn't turn out so badly. After all, the present golf course was Jack's dream. Didn't he spend hours planning and budgeting and dreaming. The phone calls, the various authorities to give the okay? And the money. Oh the money. By some accounts that damned golf course had cost Jack over half a million big ones. And now it was gone. Just a few years after it was built it was all given up. The official reason is the back injury that prevented Jack from playing on a regular basis. The unofficial reason is entirely different and has everything to do with two inches of water.

Looking back, it's impossible to say what could have been done to ensure a different, perhaps happier, ending. Maybe nothing at all, for Jack and Freddy are two very different, yet very similar personalities who only saw things through their own lookingglass. If it wasn't the water, it would have been the dockage. If not the dockage, it would have been the noise from the kids playing. It hardly matters now. What matters is that this will be decided once and for all, in court, over two inches of water.

End

The Last Stick of Square Timber along the Madawaska River

By Howard Popkie

The photo shows me with my broad axe. The big axe was used to make the timbers square before they were hauled to the river ice by sleigh. When I was a child the stumps of the original pine could be found around Black Donald. They were always about five or six feet in height so there was still a lot of wood left in the bush. They took only the best part of the big trees.

In the 1940s I was a school kid at Black Donald and in the summer my dog Shep and I played along the Madawaska River where Mountain Chute is today. In the 1800s the river

drivers drove the square timbers they made in the bush along the Madawaska and down to the Ottawa River.

When the timber came down the rapids where Mountain Chute is now, there was a sharp bend in the river and one very huge stick of square timber didn't make the bend and went straight into the swamp that always flooded in the spring. The swamp dried up in summer and Shep and I found the piece of square timber. It was about three foot square and about thirty-five feet long and gray with age.

I can still see old Shep racing ahead of me as we ran down the length of the square timber like two baby squirrels at play.

End



Howard with his broad axe

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Calendar (Cont)

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

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

Fellowship Lunch at noon
Denbigh – Griffith Lion's Club
Meet the third Wednesday of each month
Northern Lights Seniors meeting to
follow at 1:15 p.m.
General Wellness assessment by local
Paramedics available at each lunch.
Diabetes Outreach Program
every 3 months
contact Lois Robbins at 333-1082.
All Seniors Welcome

Denbigh

Music in the Park

Every second Sunday 1 to 3 pm at the Denbigh Heritage Park

Diners Club

Dinners are held the first Monday of the month at the Denbigh Community Hall at 12 noon. Full Course Meal \$6.00. Contact Faye Mieske at 333-2784 or Irene at 333-2202 for information. St. Luke's United Church, Denbigh Exercise Group - Tuesdays 9:30 a.m.

HEALTH CARE FOOTCARE CLINICS

Sylvia's Foot Care
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End

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Healing tree (Cont)

groenlanica) has been mixed with the Ash juice, dropped into the ear and then the ear covered well.

The inner bark of the Black Ash, to be similar and yet different, is soaked in warm water and then the liquid is applied to sore eyes. This liquid has also been used as a remedy for internal ailments, perhaps due to its laxative properties

The inner bark of White Ash has been made into a strong concoction to use as a wash for sores and the itch (scabies) When cooked down to a molasses consistency, it's been used as a treatment for old sores. Itch of the scalp due to vermin has been treated the same way, as has eczema.

Faxoside, a glucoside containing coumarin, has been found in the inner bark of both White and Black Ash. Perhaps this is the active ingredient that has helped White Ash bark to be used as an alternative for the glands, a tonic for the digestive system, a laxative for constipation, an astringent cleanser - strengthener of the internal mucous linings and external skin surfaces, a diuretic for urinary troubles and edema (dropsy), an anti-periodic for intermittent fevers and ague and as a sudorific. The combined properties of astringency

and of being a laxative would contribute to its being used for haemorrhoids.

The usual method of preparation is to steep a heaping teaspoon of the inner bark in a cup of boiling water for 30 minutes. Drink a 1/2 cup at a time, but a total of one cup per day. For weight loss, drink 4 ounces per day. Ash sap is a demulcent used for soothing, softening, protecting, and toning of dry, inflamed or irritated mucous membranes and skin surfaces. The smokers in our human family may be interested to know that the Ojibwas dried the bud tips of the White Ash to use as a tobacco substitute or in a mix to stretch the tobacco supply.

End

Habitat (Cont)

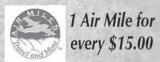
For ideas about how to help, go to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment website: http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/Species/2ColumnSubPage/STEL02_168357.html

End

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Hazards of Hydration. Choose your plastic water bottles carefully

By Susan Veale

In our recent weeks of drought conditions, we see the damage lack of rain has caused and how a desperate Mother Nature has responded. Green grass has turned brown, leaves of many trees are drooping and in some cases starting to turn colour. There is a concern for the availability of fruit as many fruit trees are dropping their young fruits in exchange for survival of the tree itself. Lack of water affects not only our health but also the health of all life on the planet.

In hot weather to avoid dehydration, most all species need to drink water daily. In people, when the water content in the blood falls, it triggers the brain to send out a message to drink. By the time the message is received, dehydration has already set in. The most popular refreshment for thirst is cold water; however, not all water bottle containers are equal.

Bottled water is a huge market with the United States leading the way in sales. Statistics show Canadians in 1999, purchased 24.4 liters of water per person. In 2005, the numbers soared to 60 liters per person with sales of \$652.7 million.

Various studies have been conducted testing the safety of plastic bottles; results vary. Some plastic bottles contain a high level of BPA - bisphenol-A, a chemical that mimics the hormone estrogen. Under certain conditions, this chemical can leach out of the plastic increasing the risk of impairment of the reproductive organs. Those at the highest risk are fetuses, pregnant women, newborns and children. Low doses of BPA have found to cause structural changes in the brain that may trigger learning deficits and hyperactivity. There is also some concern that BPA may harm the prostate gland and cause premature puberty.

On the bottom of plastic water bottle containers, there is a recycling number. Bottles labeled #1 PET or PETE are the most commonly used. These bottles are lightweight, somewhat soft and easily crushed with one hand. Tests show that with repetitive washing, this type of plastic may breakdown and create a leaching effect.

The #2 HOPE labeled bottles as well as #4 LDPE and #5 PP are made from a stronger plastic and cannot be easily compressed with one hand. These are better choices if you intend to reuse the bottles. For plastic bottle cleaning, use

a mild soap and hand wash rather than the dishwasher. Also, caution is advised when freezing or heating certain plastic containers.

My choice for a drinking water container is a stainless steel thermos. The stainless steel does not break down from washing and with a little ice; it will keep water cool for a long period. Water is a vital component in all body fluids, tissues, cells, lymph, glandular secretions and blood. Water holds all nutritional factors in solution and acts as a transportation medium for these substances. Water is necessary for all mucous membranes including joints to keep them soft and free from fiction on the delicate joint surfaces. Digestion including absorption and elimination rely on water for maximizing their efficiency. Water is also necessary to break down and remove toxins from the body.

Your body cannot manufacture water, you must supply it and you are responsible for meeting that requirement.

For more information about hydration or matters of health, call my clinic. Wellness Natural Health Centre 44 Norton Road Calabogie ON KOJ 1H0

613.752.1540

www.wellnessnaturalhealthcentre.com

Gas (Cont)

Returning to the situation faced by American gas stations, there was another regulation introduced by the Environmental Protection Agency along with the environmental regulations. The EPA insisted that gas station owners had to meet new "Financial Responsibility" requirements. In simple terms, this meant that they had to be able to demonstrate that they would be able to meet the costs of cleaning up a contaminated site either through the possession of liability insurance or some other means.

At the time the new regulations were created by the EPA in 1988 and circulated to the states, which were required to implement them, the owner/operator of a gas station with one or more underground storage tanks could face three, new, onerous financial expenditures:

1.A requirement to either immediately upgrade their USTs in a manner prescribed by the EPA or to replace them entirely within the next ten years (at a cost that could be in the tens of thousands of dollars per tank.)

2.A requirement to have the ability to clean up soil that had been contaminated by spills from their USTs either in the form of liability insurance, cash-in-hand, bonds or other means.

3.A requirement to clean up any soil that had been contaminated by their current USTs and which could be causing serious damage to local wells, aquifers and other water sources in their neighbourhoods.

There was considerable variation from state to state in terms of the programs that were created to help the small, independent owner/operator meet one, two, or all of these three expenses.

All states had a "Leaking Underground Storage Tanks Program", the LUST program, financed initially by funds that came from the Environmental Protection Agency.

At least 26 states had programs to provide low cost loans or grants to the owners/operators of USTs to remove and replace their underground storage tanks (RUST programs.) These were geared specifically toward owners/operators who could prove financial need and could not raise funds on their own to remove and replace the tanks.

Thirty-eight states created state liability insurance agencies or programs to ensure that small, independent gas station owner/operators could meet the EPA's stringent financial responsibility requirements. This type of program was particularly needed for the small gas stations as insurance that would cover them was difficult to obtain from private sector insurance companies at the time.

Knowing that these programs were available in the United States immediately raises the question of "How did they pay for them?" The answer is an interesting one. While there were a variety of ways to pay for them that could vary from state to state, and even at the federal level, the basic approach was to charge an extra cent or two on each gallon of gasoline that was sold in the state. A cent and a half was initially collected at the federal level on all gasoline sold in the United States. Many states collected similar taxes, sometimes labeled a "UST tax", sometimes labeled an "environmental tax". Some were in existence only for a few years, lasting long enough to ensure that funds were available to those who needed them to install new tanks or clean up a contaminated site. Others continued into the present to ensure that funds were available to support a state liability insurance program as meeting of the financial responsibility requirements was an on-going necessity.

Despite these programs, many gas stations in the United States still closed. That they were nevertheless effective in ensuring that many rural gas stations that might have closed were still in business was illustrated by a telephone interview with an Alabama official who stated that there was no

continued on page 23



These were the days before hydro came to Matawatchan. We had an ice

box and an ice house. Of course, so did everyone else in the community. Fresh

SUMMER CAMP

By W.W. (Bill) Jukes

Many of us have fond memories of spending a week or two at a summer camp. For my family, it was the entire summer. We would leave for camp right after school was out in June and stay until the Tuesday morning after Labour Day. We always missed the first day of school in September. It would be many years before I realized how fortunate we were to spend our summers in Matawatchan. Think about it, an entire summer to swim, fish, canoe, and just have fun.

Well, there were times it was not all fun. Like wash day. First we had to draw the water from the well and Nan would heat it up on the old wood stove in the lean-to. Next, get the wooden washer out, fill it up, add soap, and get in line for your turn to push and pull the handle to make the agitator do the job. The five of us had to pump a designated number of times and then go to the back of the line and wait for your next turn. It seemed to take an eternity, but in reality it was all said and done in about an hour. I am sure it would have taken longer if Aunt Audrey had not been there to encourage us to keep trying.

After a hard day of work, what better way to relax than a nice swim at the lake,



Dunn's Lake, of course! Nan would pile all five of us into her 53 Plymouth station wagon and away we would go. But, don't forget the salt shaker in case we have to get rid of blood suckers that always seemed to get between your toes. Nan was not a swimmer and actually was afraid of the water. She would sit on shore and watch that we did not go beyond the "drop-off". That was the point that Nan was sure we would sink to the bottom of the lake, never to be seen again. We all ventured past that point, and suffered the wrath of Nan for doing it. But, none of us ever sank to the bottom. Once finished and checked for blood suckers, we would take turns heading to the bush across the road to change. Then it was time to walk to the "rock" to catch our supper. Nan always fished in "her spot" and always used a bamboo pole. It never seemed long

before we had enough bass for supper. Back at camp, Rob and I were in charge of cleaning the fish. Nan insisted that the fish were scaled, she liked the skin. Rob and I made our own tools to scale the fish. We would use paint sticks and bottle caps. We would collect the cork lined bottle caps from the pop cooler at the general store. Dad, being a painter, supplied the paint sticks. Although, I do remember using pieces of wooden snow fence as well. The caps were then tacked to the sticks in rows and made short work of all the fish scales. Nan would dredge the pieces of fish in seasoned flour and fry them on a cast iron griddle. Bacon grease would always be smeared on the griddle before any of the fish were cooked. Nan insisted on having bread on the table when we ate fish. Just in case someone got a fish bone stuck in their throat

food did not keep long and frozen food was out of the question. But we could have ice cream, if we could get the ingredients. The girls would head up the road near the hall to pick berries and Rob and I would go to Hannah's to help with chores and separating the milk. That's how we were able to get the cream for the ice cream. With most of the required items now in place, it was time to make ice cream. Off to the ice house for a block of ice, wash the saw dust off, put the ice in a burlap sack and break it up into small pieces, using the back side of an axe. Next the wooden ice cream maker. This thing still amazes me. Simply put the cream, berries, and Nan's secret ingredient in the stainless steel cylinder, slide in the mixer, put the top on, jam plenty of ice around the cylinder, and add course salt. Secure the crank, and start cranking. Once again, we all took turns cranking. After what seemed an eternity, we had made the most delicious ice cream I had ever tasted. And to this day, no ice cream has ever been more of a treat. We made sure that Nan got the first bowl, and then the five of us would have our share. Thinking about it now, it may have been the generous amount of Matawatchan maple syrup we added to our bowls that made that ice cream so special. Boys will be boys, so one day Rob and I..... continued in the next issue.

Fnd

Note from Mary Sheridan, Documentary Director of "Out of Gas":
"Research for our forthcoming film

Out of Gas' shows that England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales and Japan have serious problems with closed rural gas pumps. We are currently researching these and other countries. The matter has been raised in the British parliament; while Scotland and the US have taken steps to address the problem. Why has it not been addressed by our governments here?"

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Gas (Cont)

community in Alabama more than five miles away from a gas station. Isn't it time for politicians in Canada to ensure that a similar statement could be made in Canada? This is especially critical for the Highlands of Eastern Ontario, where recently numerous village gas pump closings may now strand residents, cottagers and tourists 30 to 100 km from gas.

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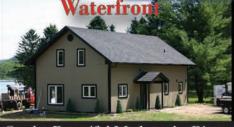
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