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Beyond A Legend

By Noreen Kruzich Violetta

Editor's note: Noreen Violetta is a freelance writer living in Burnstown who writes for a variety of Canadian and US magazines. She runs a writers workshop from her home on the Madawaska River and heads up the Society of Children's Book Writer's & Illustrators in Canada. Her story Beyond Legend was recently published in Country Connections Magazine.

It's intriguing what happens when you go in search of "truth." Sometimes a bigger picture than you've imagined opens up; and you realize that the one thing which led you to search, is merely the symbol for a much larger "truth."

I stood at the Madawaska River and contemplated an old Indian legend told along its banks. And I imagined hearing the tale being recalled by two now departed McNab residents, Janet Stewart Carmichael and John Box Campbell, words I had found in the archives.

"In their passage up the Madawaska, the Indians had to portage from the foot of the flat rapids at Stewartville to a point higher up the river and their pathway lay near the present traveled road...a tribe returning from a warlike skirmish...held a council of war over a complaint against the chief's daughter. She was accused and held guilty of notifying her lover, a young brave of the enemy's camp of the intended massacre. ...for her wrong she was banished by her father. ...her cries of anguish could be heard by all, until they were cut short with one shriek...next morning the Indians went out...they found this rock standing where the last cries were heard. The rock, named Awankan, became sacred to the Indians for they believed it was erected by the "Great Spirit." The Indian maiden was not seen again.'

The Awankan Rock and its ancient legend first spoken of by aboriginal peoples was well before 1825 and the beginnings of the village called Burnstown. And this is where I begin.

There is a known rock in Burnstown, now some thirty-five feet under water

in the current of the Madawaska just beyond the concrete supports of the old bridge. 1920 photos of this rock, before the dams were built, show it to be quite large and by itself. It was referred to by the settlers, as Johnstone's Rock for a logger who drown nearby. Is this indeed, as suggested by some, the same rock from the ancient Algonquin legend?

Locals will tell you the Awankan Rock was referred to as the "spirit rock." It was interesting to discover that *awakan* in an Ojibway dictionary (Ojibway and Alongonquin are closely related languages) means "enslaved," and the word *wakan* means "grave." (As native languages were originally oral only, is it possible the word changed slightly when finally written down?) The Indians believed that the chief's daughter was turned into stone, enslaved forever.

It was told that the rock remained sacred to the Indians, a creation of some greater energy. Some Burnstown residents have felt that there is a strange, but positive creative energy in the village.

I had heard of a local artist who had a story to tell that involved this very rock. I set up a visit with Gloria Laronde Tippins just outside of Burnstown at her home. She had told me she was in the process of drawing up plans for her Awankan Rock Farm and (Art) Studio to be built on the south/west corner from the Burnstown Bridge, along the Madawaska. This intrigued me.

As I sat down with Gloria on a Sunday morning, she held an album filled with genealogical notes and records and her story unfolded.

"It wasn't until four years ago that I found out I was Algonquin. Funny thing was, that I knew there was something in my life that was not quite right, something was missing like a piece of a puzzle. I had always loved and purchased a lot of Indian jewellery. Funny to think back now, my favorite and still is a hair-bone choker that I bought at a Pow Wow at Algonquin Park. I wore this necklace twice,

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Go Slow - turtle season



The turtle is a Blanding's Turtle, Emydoidea blandingii. These are easily recognized by the bright yellow throat and chin. They are on their way towards being endangered in this area.

Slow, Turtles!

Article courtesy of: CARCNET

Why did the turtle cross the road? To get to the other side.

It may seem silly, but it's the truth. Right now many turtles are moving from one marsh to another, to find food, locate a mate or to lay eggs. Historically this was no problem, but today turtles often must cross busy roads on their wanderings. The result is that hundreds maybe even thousands of turtles are killed every year.

"Traffic mortality is a serious issue for turtles," says Carolyn Seburn of the Canadian Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Network. Ronald Brooks, a professor of biology at the University of Guelph agrees. "My view is that these animals are not going to survive if we don't prevent the road-kill problem."

There are many reasons why turtles are particularly vulnerable to traffic mortality. First of all, many of the turtles seen trying to cross roads are females looking for places to lay their eggs. Because turtles can live for decades, killing pregnant females not only removes reproductive adults from the population but it also removes all their potential future offspring. In addition, surviving turtles can't lay extra eggs

to compensate for increased mortality, so once a population starts to decline it is difficult to reverse the trend.

What can drivers do? "It's important to watch the road carefully when you're driving," says Seburn, "particularly where the road comes near to wetlands and rivers. Remember that turtles don't move very quickly and their first response to danger is to pull into their shells. Turtles don't understand about cars, but drivers can act responsibly and avoid hitting a turtle."

In many locations in Ontario drivers can also watch for turtle crossing signs. These signs depicting a stylized turtle are the work of Turtle S.H.E.L.L. (Safety, Habitat, Education, Long Life), a non-profit group dedicated to the conservation of turtles. The signs have been posted at known crossing areas and they alert drivers that turtles may be crossing the road. The Canadian Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Network is a charitable organization dedication to ensuring the survival of Canada's native amphibians and reptiles. Recently it launched a major campaign to help reduce traffic mortality in turtles.

End

Highway turtle mortality

An alarmingly high number of dead turtles have been found this year along the Matawatchan Road. They have also been found in other years but there is definitely a higher incidence this year. Since many of the fatalities are occurring along a straight stretch of road, the likelihood of an accident is very remote: this is an ideal area to avoid hitting turtles. Apparently several individuals in the area erroneously think that snapping turtles have a negative impact on local fish and duck populations. This is simply not the case and yet some individuals are deliberately killing wandering and nesting turtles. Some turtles are run over while nesting in the gravel at the side of the road. The tough turtle shells can't resist the impact of a half ton truck or heavy vehicle and far too often the animal is maimed but not immediately killed and continues to survive and suffer for an additional one to two weeks. This year a number of very large snapping turtles have been targeted. These turtles are likely 30 or more years old. Reports are also circulating in the area that some individuals are even shooting turtles. Somehow turtles don't seem to fit the saying that it's hard to hit a moving target. It's difficult for many to see where the sport is in that type of activity.

Snapping turtles feed on plant and animal material and will also scavenge for dead animals. They generally employ a "sit-and-wait" strategy, but smaller snapping turtles will actively pursue their prey. Their diet consists of aquatic plant material, crustaceans, insects, mollusks and available dead fish. They perform a valuable service to the environment by recycling dead organic material and controlling aquatic vegetation.

Snapping turtles seldom cause injuries to people. When encountered in the water, a snapping turtle's response is to bury itself in the mud or to swim away. If encountered on land, where the turtle is most vulnerable, they will withdraw into their shell; if deliberately provoked, they will attempt to bite. Smaller snapping turtles will emit a foul-smelling substance from their musk (scent) glands to deter a predator.

Snapping turtles are a valuable resource and are considered a game animal under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act. They can be harvested for food with a valid fishing license within the applicable season. Deliberately killing or injuring snapping turtles (other than for food) is

against the law. Four of the 6 species of turtles known to occur in this area are at risk and in danger of local extinction. Some of these turtles unfortunately are being included in the killings, caught in the crossfire so to speak.

The deliberate killing of wildlife and wasting of the resource is a crime.

that even the loss of 1-2% of adults annually from the "extra" mortality of roadkill can, and will, inevitably push turtle populations toward extinction. Turtle Rehabilitation

Conservation in

Rehabilitation of Ontario turtles is far more than the compassionate gesture of a caring community. To understand why treatment of injured turtles can actually contribute to species recovery, we need to delve into their biology and reproduction to understand traits that are vastly different from other classes of animals.

- -Turtles are a long-lived species. Researchers believe that Snapping turtles may in fact have a lifespan of over 100 years; Blandings turtles are known to live at least 70 years.
- · Turtles have extremely high juvenile mortality rates- the vast majority of hatchlings and juveniles do not sur-
- · Turtles have a delayed onset of sexual maturity, often not reproducing until they are 18 years of age
- · Turtles are capable of reproducing throughout their lifespan once they have reached maturity
- have an extremely LOW mortality

rate- only 1% per year. In a healthy population 99% of adult turtles survive each year!

- · Turtles do not compensate for an increase in the mortality rate by producing more eggs per year.
- · Very small increases in the adult mortality rate, such as being killed on roads, can lead to the decline and eventual extinction of the population

What does all this mean? Mortality at the hatchling or juvenile stages has much less impact than adult mortality. The adult female turtle is of GREAT value to the survival of a population. Considering as few as 1% of hatchlings reach maturity, and only half of these are likely to be female, it would take 200 eggs and 18 years to produce another adult female. Because so few turtles ever reach sexual maturity, each adult turtle is part of an elite group destined to live and breed for many years in order to perpetuate the species. Removing an adult turtle will have a negative impact on the population, and saving a turtle will have a beneficial impact on the population as a whole. This explains why roads are having such a terrible impact on turtles throughout North America. Even small numbers of adult turtles killed each year are contributing to the decline of most species, and unless road mortality is reduced, species will disappear.

Anyone with knowledge about who has been conducting the "turtle culls" is encouraged to call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

End

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Turtles Are In Trouble

Turtle facts

In June of 2002, The Kawartha

Turtle Trauma Centre opened its

doors. Located in Peterborough at the

Riverview Park and Zoo, the Centre

provides medical, surgical and rehabil-

itative care to injured native turtles in

order to eventually release them back

into their natural habitat. The Centre

is a registered Canadian Charity.

The sight of a turtle basking on a log has always been a pleasant part of any visit to an Ontario wetland. But the presence of these species, something we once took for granted, is now being threatened. Six of the eight species have been identified by COSEWIC (the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada) as being at risk. Most turtle populations are declining and unless drastic measures are taken, scientists fear that several species may disappear from our province.

Road Kill is Causing Populations to **Decline**

In Ontario, roadkill is one of the most significant causes of mortality and many of the turtles being killed are nesting females The adult female is extremely important to the survival of the population. Dr. Ron Brooks, professor at the University of Guelph, warns

· In the natural state, adult turtles

Legend continued

maybe three times a week for years. I used to brag that an Algonquin Indian made it, and now I laugh at that. When I was growing up, I remember being mesmerized by the Indian displays at our local museum and running to see them first. I fondly remember every visit standing at a foot of a mannequin of an Indian woman with a baby on her back. It gave me shivers, as something inside me loved looking at her. She was so beautiful to me in her Indian regalia."

Gloria's eyes meet mine, she relates that in the stages of life, she is now a grandmother and that she has always felt at home among the rocks and trees and the river; and not feeling like she fit in as a farmer; but trying to figure out who she was. "I received a phone call from my cousin telling me we were Algonquin and my great-grandmother was Ojibway. After checking documentation and census lists, we found generations of Indian marriages and names in the family." She goes on to tell me she has since found out that one of her great grandmothers was taken from her tribe, in the North Bay/Mattawa area, and adopted into a white family.

"My father lived and died without the knowledge he was Algonquin. Although in his heart, like me, I am sure this was something he must have felt... We feel that because of prejudice of the times, no one spoke of our native lineage. It had been a very dark time in the history for the Indian. We will soon be building a home and studio to honour the Algonquin people. I hope to help people learn about the first people who inhabited Burnstown, and lived amongst the Ottawa and Madawaska Rivers in our area....I hope to bring honour and dignity back to a most deserving people. This is my passion." She ended reading what she had prepared.

Gloria tells me it is where her new home is to be along the Madawaska, that she feels a sense of her people and she speaks of its land. "I have a strong interest in rock. When we go for a drive, I almost have to block the rock out," she says, as she tells me she sees pictures everywhere in the rock. Her

current studio does reflect that, because although she uses many mediums for her native art, she does love painting on rock. She shows me a small stone with an Indian maiden, who appears to be in a dream state, her "Awankan Rock."

Strange enough to add to this, Gloria tells me her mom was asked some years back to do a portrait in a rock illustration for a story about an Indian legend, "The Awankan Rock," in a now defunct magazine for noted author & historian, Peter Hessel. "I didn't even know at that time I had any Indian blood in me, even though I felt it. We were always told we weren't, we were always told my father was French. That morning, I left Gloria knowing this story had taken a turn.

I obsessed over archive material, maps and books now trying to document history of the original people in and around Burnstown; although it is a fact the natives lived all along the waterways. I did run across a diary account placing an Indian encampment near Burnstown as late as 1840, well after Burnstown had been established in 1825.

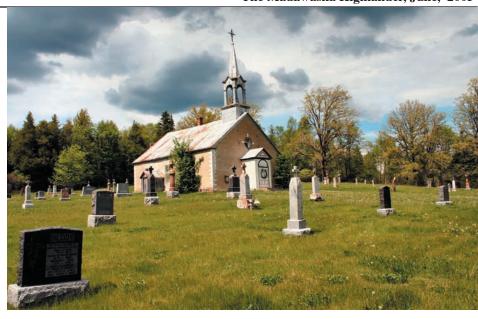
The Reverend Wm. Bell was here where I stand today, and I read his words of over a century ago. It's a cold February day, 1840.

"...soon came to the Madawaska, which is the only river we had to cross. We found a powerful and rapid stream with steep banks two or three hundred feet high. The road is cut down the bank on both sides in a slanting direction... ...at the bottom of the glen we found a safe and well constructed bridge. How the settlers managed to cross before the construction of this road and bridge, it is difficult to conceive. My guide pointed out a place at which two men and a child were drowned by the upsetting of a canoe three years before....

The ascent on the western bank we found not quite so steep as the other. Still the land rose to a great height, and appeared mountainous compared to what we had passed over...on my way to the house of Mr. James Morris, postmaster, where I was to lodge, I passed an Indian camp. They seemed



Awankan Rock



to have been successful in hunting, for six large carcasses of deer were laid up on a stage near their wigwams, besides others they had cut up and sold."

This passage places that encampment just along the Burnstown road between the village and what was Canaan, where now only a monument stands.

Springtown was another once booming village on the Madawaska, just down the road from Burnstown. Lifetime resident Goldie Brydges Moore, now 96!, tells me her father often spoke of the Indians in this area, "He enjoyed working with them in the bush (in wintertime further north.) He would always joke they went up in the spring and down in the fall and all came back with golden nuggets!"

Again I pour over more material and run across, to my astonishment, my own golden nugget, an old Algonquin Indian Chief, Constant Penency, (means partridge and connotates the Chief's band) whose path I will later tell you leads to the Burnstown/ Springtown area. The information is in a book entitled, "An Acre of Time," by Phil Jenkins. I tracked down the author and phoned him. Phil's research and book finds the Algonquin Chief living in Ottawa; and in February 1830 he is petitioning the British Dept. of Indian Affairs stating that his hunting grounds in the south of Ottawa are nearly ruined by the intrusion of vast settlements. It was clear from his statement that this was his entire means for feeding his family. He concluded his words by signing and scribbling, a hieroglyphic the size of a thumbnail, the outline of a partridge. His request fell on deaf ears. Four years later, he would be back asking to be granted ownership of a large piece of land for his people on which to hunt and provide for their families, a request, almost ironic, since he was asking for property in his own birth land of men born of another world. Research shows no treaty was ever agreed upon by the Algonquin to give up their land.

This same Indian Chief, to my amazement, ends up an elderly, poor man living on the Madawaska River, just outside of Burnstown in the late 1800's.

Local Burnstown historian and author, Irene Robillard, leads me again to Constant in a conversation where I asked her if she's aware of that name. I hear her voice light up over the phone lines, "In my current research for the book I'm writing on Springtown, I found a Consta (nt left off, but Irene tells me census takers were notorious for misspelling names) in a Bagot (now Springtown) 1871 census." I jump in my car and pay her a visit.

His nationality is listed as Algonquin Indian; his occupation is listed as Indian hunter, his religion listed as R. Catholic and his age is listed, 81. And then she gives me the gold nugget, "I have also found him to be a former Indian Chief," she says.

The facts are too similar. Added to this, she pulls out a copy of a May 29, 1874 article in The Renfrew Mercury, which tells of an elderly Indian woman, living along the Madawaska who was murdered by one of a gang of raftsmen. The name is listed as Jane Constant. Later, I am astonished to piece together my own findings from the archives, which tells me it's possible it was Constant's wife who was killed at the age of 81 by a drunken logger, another injustice for a man who had endured so many. I compare notes in Phil Jenkins book, which puts Constant here along the Madawaska as well. Jenkins' relates that in 1876, one Burnstown man, George Rochester, honoured Constant in his late years by seeing that he received a pension. Burnstown historians know Rochester for establishing a mill in their town in the earliest days of the village. As a man of wealth, he held various posts, one being agent for the Dept. of Interior, Indian Branch. Interestingly enough, Rochester's father was one of the founding fathers of Bytown, (Ottawa) and builder of the first industrial park, (Rochesterville) on the very land which Constant called his home and hunting grounds, and was forced to leave nearly forty-years prior.

continued on page 4

Legend continued

Back on the phone to Phil, we talk of yet another saga in the Constant' story. Jenkins says, "I had been told an Algonquin woman by the name of Meg Constant (said to have been Constant's granddaughter; of note census records with names/ages of those living in the household indicated that to me as well.) was likely buried at the back of the old St. Gabriel's cemetery in Springtown. I did hear that it was a habit of churches to bury natives at the back of the cemetery with unmarked stones," he adds.

He, Jenkins, even made a vigil up to the cemetery some years ago, which sits on a serene slope overlooking the Madawaska, hoping to find evidence that the Algonquin Chief had also been buried there. He found no evidence of Meg or the Chief; but historians tell me wooden crosses were used back then or sometimes unmarked stones, and now these people lie in unmarked graves. Phil urged me to take a stroll up there, and so I did on a blustery winter day only to find a few broken, unscripted and disheveled stones at the back of the cemetery, caked with snow, ice and moss. I also went digging (in the archives,) but found that cemetery records often produced in later years only show the graves of those who have marked tombstones.

Jenkins' book goes on to note that one Father Sullivan at St. Gabriel's at one point took up unmarked stones and used them for a pathway. Upsetting some locals in having done this, Sullivan noted for his combatant temper, had them taken up and thrown over the old stone Burnstown Bridge! During my talk with Phil, he said,

"I personally spoke to a Renfrew lawyer who reported that his son had worked on the renovation of the bridge and saw a jumble of tombstones at the bottom of the river." (This possible fact is yet another story!)

I am now convinced this Ottawa Valley stretch of the Madawaska was the home of one Constant Penency, a great and well-respected Algonquin Indian Chief; but a near nobody to the settlers.

The rock, Gloria, and Constant—they share common ground-literally and figuratively. It's possible that the settlers, in an act of remembering one of their own, could have renamed this sacred Algonquin rock, which sits at the bottom of the river today. Gloria has unearthed her heritage, long covered up, and is honouring it with the Awankan Rock Farm and Studio on a piece of land which sits along the river near the rock. While, one Algonquin man's story captures the entire history of the first peoples, his own story ending here too along the Madawaska.

If there's any kind of energy in this quaint village among the trees, rocks and water, it is this...perhaps an Indian maiden, who in life wronged her people, has now in spirit been sent to bring back a justice for her people?

For all these stories represent a "truth" of a people who has been "enslaved" and the rock, be it at the bottom of the Madawaska or an essence, is a symbol of a much larger truth; the first settlers were truly Anishnabe, "the original people."

Sometimes when you go unearthing one truth, many other truths are revealed,



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SPRINGTOWN

By Wes Bomhower

Foreword: We visited St.Gabriel's Church and burial grounds at Springtown and also the old Protestant cemetery, but most of the following information was garnered from Goldie (Brydges) Moore who was born and raised in Springtown where the MacConnell property is situated.

She married Cecil Moore in the early 'Thirties and they lived in Northern Ontario for some years where Cecil was employed in the mines. They began to raise a family, and in the late 'Thirties they returned to Renfrew County where they farmed just a few kilometres north of Springtown on the Moore Road. Cecil passed away a few years ago and Goldie eventually went to reside at Groves Park Lodge in Renfrew, though the log farmhouse still stands as a reminder of another era.

One of their daughters, Margaret Norton, a schoolteacher in the Calabogie area for many years, filled in a few blanks for this write up also, and we owe her. Goldie herself is mainly in good spirits and who will be 97 in October has a wonderful memory and loves to talk about the old days. Perhaps one day we will write her story.

St.Gabriel's Holy Roman Catholic Church of Springtown was built in 1854 in a beautiful setting, high on the north shore of the Madawaska River. The stone building is still there but services were discontinued in 1952 due to falling attendance and the fact that Calabogie to the west, and its Most Precious Blood Parish was growing, while Springtown and St. Gabriel's was gradually fading into obscurity.

The three hotels and schoolhouse, all situated near the junction of the Moore Road, (now called Brydges Road) and County Road 508 are gone, although the one closest to the river, (McCrea's Hotel) was refurbished and is now a Christian Retreat known as The Stillpoint House of Prayer.

Blacksmith shops, stores and many other businesses in Springtown began to disappear gradually when the Kingston to Pembroke rail line (K.and P.) went through, putting Calabogie on the map, so to speak, and taking practically everything away from Springtown. There are many venerable markers in St. Gabriel's cemetery, but the oldest readable headstone is in memory of a James Barry of County Wexford, Ireland, who died in 1853 at the age of 3 years. About a kilometre to the west of St. Gabriel's there is another cemetery, this one of the Protestant faith and on the gate is a date reading 1866. Apparently there never was a church at this location, but it is a beautiful spot also overlooking the river, and in this old cemetery grow huge pine and oak trees perhaps planted when the graveyard was first used.

The land for both cemeteries was donated to the respective churches by the original McCrea family in Springtown, and the oldest readable headstone here is in memory of a McFarlane, (one of Margaret Norton's ancestors) who died in 1838, (although it could be 1888,the names and dates are quite faded). In both these ancient burial grounds lay the remains of predominantly Irish and Scottish stock and their descendants, but it is evident their life expectancy was less than half of what it is today. Many never reached adulthood, whether due to harsh living conditions or disease, or perhaps the lack of proper nutrition.

Springtown is practically a ghost town but the spirit of those hardy pioneers lives on in their great grandchildren scattered throughout Renfrew County, and indeed many other parts of North America.

Out on the First Concession

ONE SCARY NIGHT IN JUNE

By Wes Bomhower

Author's note: My sister, Wilma, has a slightly different version of this event, but I will tell it as I remember it. It was June 1939 and strawberry socials were the rage for a week or two, the best one being put on by the ladies of the United Church in the village on Friday night. Wilma and I managed to scrape a few shekels together, promising Mom we would be home before dark and we wouldn't need the flashlight or lantern. We were walking of course, but hoped to get a ride once we reached the County Road.

We struck off in high spirits and we did get a ride with Lloyd Thompson, if my memory is correct, and although he was not going to the strawberry social, he dropped us off in the village. We had our fill of strawberries, shortcake, whipped cream and whatever else

was offered and then began looking around for someone from our neck of the woods to ride home with. We didn't recognize anyone and being much too proud to ask anybody, we began walking. A man picked us up in an old jalopy, but he was only going a mile or so out of town. There was still more than two miles to go before reaching the First Concession and it was long past sundown when we turned down the familiar trail.

I have been out on many a June evening in those intervening years, but never can I recall a darker or cloudier sky, not a star in sight and the only visible being fireflies, or lightning bugs, as some people call them. We were trudging along in silence, trying to stay in the middle of the gravel road when suddenly a terrible "Mirrraugh" shattered the stillness of the night and something pawed the earth ahead of us.

Neither of us needed to be told that it was an angry bull inside O'Clark's pasture fence amongst the underbrush on the south side of the road or in Eldon Thompson's field on the north side? Or worse still, had he broken through the fence and was out on the road? Why had we not brought a flashlight? At least with it we would be able to see where the bull was.

Hanging onto each other, we scrambled through the dew-laden weeds and grass to the fence on the right, and there we made a pact that if the bull was on the road and charged at us, we would try to get through the fence quickly and if one of us made it, the other would not be left behind.

It seemed like hours as we inched our way along the fence, tripping over brambles and skinning our legs and shivering every time the bull roared and pawed the earth, expecting him to come galloping at us at any minute, but we finally got beyond where the bull seemed to be located. We eased back to the gravel again and Wilma whispered, "Let's run Wes, like we've never run before".

Though I was small for my ten years, I prided myself on being able to outrun most of the bigger boys at school besides all the girls, but fear gave wings to Wilma's feet that night and it was all I could do to keep up with her as we flew down the homeward trail. We were going flat out past Orland Hartel's driveway, taking an occasional look over our shoulder, when abruptly a flashlight shone in our faces and we skidded to a halt. It was Dad whom we almost ran down in our haste, but oh, we were so glad to see him, "When you kids weren't home and it was dark, I decided to come looking for you", he explained after making sure there was no animal close behind us, and we headed home.

We never did find out which pasture the bull was in that night, but thankfully he was not out on the road as we had imagined.

How times have changed.



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Waste not

Today, more than 12 million tonnes of solid waste are generated annually in Ontario. The amount of waste continues to increase, much of it destined for landfills both inside and outside the province. Historically landfill sites were the most economical approach for dealing with all the garbage that we collectively produce. However, a much keener sense of the possible environmental cost of continuing to use landfill sites is shared by individual municipalities and by the province.

Last year at this time the Ontario Ministry of the Environment published a discussion paper entitled *Ontario's 60% Waste Diversion Goal.* The paper suggests that the government would like to divert 60% of Ontario's waste from disposal by 2008. Currently the average diversion rate in Ontario is 28%. Despite this very ambitious goal the Ministry of the Environment hopes that the goal can be achieved using the 3Rs programs—reducing, reusing and recycling—at home and in the workplace.

Achieving this goal will require maximizing the blue box recycling program and diverting organic waste; especially food waste. Food waste is 25% of all residential waste. If moved to a processing area this organic waste can be rendered to composit and revenue can be generated.

The province states its goal this way: "An expanding economy and a growing population are placing additional demands on Ontario's natural resources and straining our ability to effectively manage the environmental impact of that growth. That is why the provincial government is proposing to take a new comprehensive approach to waste diversion, one that will *reduce* the amount of waste generated, *increase* the rates of reuse and recycling, and *reduce* the amount of waste going to disposal."

Greater Madawaska also faces choices on how to proceed with the waste management issue. At one extreme the decision could be put off and the township could continue using the current land fill sites for a few more years. In the short term this is the most eco-

Looking Back.....



St. Gabriels RC Church in Springtown was built in 1854

nomical choice. At the other extreme the township could partner with the Ottawa Valley Waste Recovery Centre (OVWRC), set up local transfer stations and haul a large portion of our garbage to their Centre in Pembroke. In the short term this is the most expensive option, but in the long term this may be the most economical alternative.

When governments put discussion papers out into the public domain, you can be reasonably certain that legislation coming out of that discussion paper is not far behind. Greater Madawaska has an opportunity now to join other Renfrew County municipalities in partnership with Ottawa Valley Waste Recycling. OVWRC is already approaching the 60% goal set out in the Ministry of Environment paper and partnering with them will ensure compliance with what will probably be future legislation. The buy-in to the partnership will not get any cheaper—now is the time to move forward with it.

End

State-of-the-art waste management in the Ottawa Valley

by Lynn Jones

Editors note: Lynn Jones is a member of the Ottawa River Institute (www.ottawariverinstitute.ca), a non-profit charitable organization aimed at fostering sustainable communities and ecological integrity in the Ottawa River Watershed.

North Americans tend to be very wasteful folks, generally-speaking. It is said that the U.S. spends more money on garbage bags than 90 of the world's 210 countries spend on everything. This statistic comes from a book called Affluenza, which is based on a PBS television series of the same name by John De Graaf et al. Canadians use a lot of garbage bags too, discarding on average, 675 kilograms of waste per person each year.

Dealing with the mountains of waste resulting from our wanton overconsumption is a major challenge for North American municipalities.

Here in the Ottawa Valley, in the heart of Laurentian Valley Township, we have a waste management facility worth crowing about. Since opening in January 2002, this facility

- supported by local citizens - has steadily increased the proportion of residential waste diverted from landfill to 55%. This adds many years of life to our landfill site, which serves around 40,000 people in Pembroke, Petawawa and surrounding areas.

Meanwhile, Toronto trucks garbage to Michigan. It diverts only 27% of wastes from landfill. Provincial average waste diversion was 28% in 2002. Not one single Ontario city over 100,000 people has reached 50% diversion. Many are fighting the clock on dwindling landfill space.

A strong hint as to the reason for this facility's success lies in its name: the *Ottawa Valley Waste Recovery Center* or OVWRC for short.

The OWRC includes a standard Material Recovery Facility that recovers saleable materials out of blue boxes, including paper, cardboard, glass, plastic and metals. It also includes a Construction and Demolition Waste Recycling area, a permanent Household Hazardous Waste Depot, two waste oil transfer stations and a landfill.

Where the OVWRC really excels however, is in the recovery of organic

material from the waste stream. It does this with not one, but two composting programs: a Centralized Composting Facility and an Outdoor Composting Area, which includes a curing and storage area for compost and leaf and yard waste windrow composting.

Composting of leaf and yard waste is mandatory in Ontario and windrow composting is in place at most landfills but centralized composting facilities are still fairly rare.

The OVWRC handles all organic kitchen wastes: table scraps, meat, fish, bones, fruits and vegetables, coffee grounds and filters, and used paper napkins, towels, plates, and tissues. Residents collect wastes in small green containers and transfer them to Green Carts that are wheeled to the curb and collected biweekly or weekly in warm weather. A summer 2004 curbside audit showed that 86% of residents participate in the Green Cart program.

Green Cart contents are sorted at the center to remove plastics and metal. OVWRC workers mix the organic wastes with wood chips and water to get the right "recipe". They load the mix into a container, take it outside, and hook it to an air supply. The OVWRC currently operates 11 containers.

Workers monitor container temperatures via an automated computer system. Once the mix reaches 55C for three days (which reduces pathogens), the material is moved to the Outdoor Composting Area. Here, it cools and finishes composting (for about six months).

After screening, mature compost is ready to be applied to lawns and gardens. For the last two years, the OVWRC has sold out of the finished compost.

Currently, the OVWRC's residential diversion rate is 55%, well on the way to its 65% goal. Next steps for the Center include working with the commercial sector and local haulers to start diverting more material from places like grocery stores, malls, and restaurants.

In a truly sustainable community, there would be no "waste" and organic matter would be composted as close as possible to its source... it the meantime, the OVWRC is doing a fine job. Members of the local waste management committee showed great leadership in conceiving of this type of facility and getting it up and running. Local citizens owe them a debt of gratitude for their foresight and commitment!

End

GREATER MADAWASKA LITERARY MATTERS

By Mary Joan Hale

Great things are happening in the library. The Library Board welcomed a new trustee to replace John Loten, who retired after many years of dedicated service. Don Strachan began as a member of the Citizens' Committee which morphed into the Strategic Planning Committee. He offers a wealth of professional experience and his thoughtful input has proven very valuable in the planning process. He is already active on the sub-committees which have arisen from the plan. Welcome Don, and thank you for your dedication to the Board as well as your volunteer work in the library.

We have been blessed with an influx of volunteers. There are plenty of tasks needing willing hands. Some folks cover the Circulation Desk during Storytime. Others process, shelve and repair books. One lady dedicates her time to searching and ordering materials from the Inter-library Loan Service. One tidies the shelves and keeps the keyboards and screens cleaned and disinfected. Another volunteer catalogues books to help ease the backlog, so they get to the shelves more quickly. Others work with the Friends of the Library', bake, sell books at our Summer Sale, and we are fortunate to have a lady come in from time to time to do special activities with the children's programmes. On Canada Day in Calabogie, volunteers repair teddies and other special toys in the B.A.S.H. tent. Twice a year, another volunteer offers a computer course. Do you have a talent to share, or time to spare? Call the library and let's talk!

This year, the TD Summer Reading programme is being offered again in July and August at the Library on Tuesday mornings from 11:00 to 12:00. The theme is "Blast Off". Children between six and twelve will explore space through books, games and activities. Who knows, perhaps we may be invaded by aliens or other extra-terrestrials! So get on your rocket ship and zoom in to the library to register. You may also use cyberspace (mjhale@post.library.on.ca), or Ma Bell (752-2317).

Have you ever tried using e-books? We have thousands of titles in our collection. If you are doing a research paper or essay, on topics from Shakespeare to buying wine, it's all there and through our agreement with the Southern Ontario Library Services, more materials are being added all the time. If you cannot find what you need, you can go through the gateway into a larger collection. You may browse and sign books out electronically for two hours at a time. When you do so, it is entered into our Circulation system.

You can bookmark (if you time out and there is another request on the item) and reserve it for later. To get started, come into the library and register. After doing so, you can access the collection from your home computer (providing you have Internet).

By the time you receive this, we will have celebrated National Aboriginal Day on June 21. The First Nations Communities Read selection for 2005 is Sky Sisters by Jan Bourdeau Waboose. Our collection contains this delightful picture book as well as another of her books, entitled Morning on the lake. Both of these stories celebrate the wonders of nature and the close bonds within families. Bobbie Kalman's Nations of the Eastern Great Lakes is in our Non-fiction section. All of these books were nominees for the 'First Nations Communities Read 2005' along with: Qu'Appelle and The song within my heart by David Bouchard; Catching Spring by Sylvia Olsen; Nshkintam Gii-Maanjidiyaang (Our family circle) by Merle Assance Beedie; and Coyote's new coat by Thomas King. Thanks to our Trillium Grant in 2003/4, we added many titles by Aboriginal authors and illustrators to our collection. We honour all the First Nations Libraries in Ontario for this celebration of reading.

We will have witnessed a heart

warming presentation by Mary Cook in Calabogie to celebrate **One Book, One Community: Renfrew County Reads.** However, Mary will be visiting many other events throughout the county until November. Please go to www.pembroke.library.on.ca/onebook.html to see what's happening.

Our mandate is literacy for all ages throughout the Township. We aim to do so by providing materials for all your needs. As part of our Strategic Planning initiative, a team is exploring ways to get books out to Wards 2 and 3. If you would like to volunteer or have any ideas or suggestions, please notify the library and committee members will contact you. We hope to have software allowing access to the library from your home computer.

Some new additions:

Adults: Penelope Lively: Killing me softly; Tony Hillerman: The blessing way; Carol Shields: Dropped threads 2; Norah Labiner: Miniatures; Rohinton Mistry: Such a long journey, and many more.... Kids: Lynn Peppas: Life in Ancient Greece; Science and technology in the Middle Ages; A Schneider: The dearest little mouse in the world; Vivien Bowers: Wow Canada! Explore this land from coast to coast to coast; Jo Crossingham: Track events in action.

Remember: 'Summer time and the reading is easy'.





GRIFFITH/ MATAWATCHAN NEWS

By Garry Ferguson

Dump Dude

Gary Guilmette, our waste site attendant who refers to himself as "The Dump Dude," has asked that I pass on his appreciation to those good folk who faithfully recycle. To those who are a bit more environmentally-conscious-challenged, (I hope the editor misses that one), he promises to appreciate the effort when it comes.

Some patrons are under the false impression that hazardous household waste will be accepted at our two waste sites and attempt to leave such items as paints or batteries. This is not true. Some even become belligerent when this is pointed out. The township has made arrangements with the Town of Renfrew to dispose of hazardous waste from May 21 to August 20 at the Renfrew Landfill Site, 376 Bruce Street. This facility is opened from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tuesdays through Saturdays.

The following items are considered hazardous: paints, turpentine, stains, propane tanks, ammonia and other house-hold cleaners, small batteries, car batteries, herbicides, pool chemicals, varnish, solvents, antifreeze, insecticides, oils and other petroleum products.

Make the "Dump Dude's" day. Stick to the three "R's": Recycle and something else and something else. Whatever — "recycle" is the important one.

Matawatchan Hall

A concert starring Cape Breton

musician Gerry McDaniel had the Matawatchan Hall rocking in mid-June. The concert was organized by Morgan Adams of Griffith to raise money for the Renfrew Victoria Hospital. Between the proceeds from the door, raffles and the sale of popcorn around \$500 was donated to the hospital.

The Annual Canada Day Matawatchan Picnic is a go for Saturday, July 02, 2005 at the hall. The dinner (12:00 noon) will be as it has been for the last 127 years – beef stew, bakes beans with all the fixin's. The program at the out-door stage will begin at 2 p.m.

The Annual Dance, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., with cash bar and the mixed softball game (read, just goof around and have a good time) the next day at 1p.m. - Sunday, July 03 - are of course givens.

Don't forget the Renfrew Woodlands Metis Aboriginal Association's (RWMAA) Rendezvous Celebration (see Madawaska Highlander, May, 2005) scheduled over the four-day period of July 29 to August 01. The entrance fee will be \$20.00 per person for the weekend or \$15.00 per day with all welcome. The RWMAA has erected a rail fence across the front of the premises and has moved, as well as enlarged, the outdoor stage. It's hoped that folks will come out on Saturday and Sunday to kick up their heels in time to nonstop music from this new and improved forum.

For more information, call Kent Gauthier at 613 432 3177.

Seeing Red

We have *rare birds* around here but not so many of the *rare* feathered types. One of the *rare* feathered variety, a male Scarlet Tanager, blessed the Reynolds and Mains, who live along Centennial Lake, with its presence at their feeders over the first weekend in June. I haven't seen one these exquisite little beauties since I was a youngster. Though the females' colour is a yellow-green, the male is the only North American bird with a red body, black wings and black tail.

Hello To Nova Scotia

On Sunday, May 29 2005, Linda Winton, Student Minister at the Matawatchan, Denbigh and Shutt United Churches became Reverend Winton. The Ordination took place at St. Georges United in Peterborough, Ontario. Reverend Linda will be Nova Scotia bound in late July to take over duties at the United Church in Noel near the Minus Basin. A good chunk of the population from Griffith, Denbigh and Matawatchan came out for her farewell party in the Denbigh Hall on Saturday, June 04.

Fish And Game Club

This spring, club members planted buck clover to be harvested for winter feed. If the grass around our house is any indication, they should have a bumper crop, so if there are those among our readers who would like to brush up on their farming skills while helping with the "haying," then watch for President Karen's bulletins.

The encouraging Walleye Count this year was an indication of better times – fishing wise. Fishermen have reported a marked increase in the number of "keepers" (greater than 50 cm or 19.7 inches) already this summer. Looks like the good sports who released the "almost keepers" over the past year or two deserve a big round of applause.

The Kids" Fishing Derby is again scheduled for 10 a.m., July 16 at Holleran's Hideanyway. Call Karen at 333 1206 for more information.

Forget About It

There's sad news for those of us who commence drooling about a week before the traditional St. Andrew's Strawberry Social. The July 9th event has been cancelled for this year, so we'll have to either conduct our own rituals in praise of this tasty little fruit in the privacy of our homes or turn down the volume on the taste buds until next year.



Gerry McDaniel

What's happening with the Barnet Park project?

By Bill Graham

By all accounts residents of Calabogie are very anxious to get started with their plans for the development of Barnet Park. However, many of the plans will not be realized this summer. It's not for a lack of money or the will to move things forward. Rather, it is the prudence of Township administrators who want to make sure that this project is carried out properly.

While instant gratification is always nice, it is not always prudent. There have been many structural changes to municipal government over the last year. Not least of these changes is the hiring of a Director of Public Works, who would normally take a lead role in such developments. Greater Madawaska's new Director of Public Works, Mark Hall, will begin work for the Township on July 4th. The Barnet Park project should benefit from Mr. Hall's experience. One of his first tasks will be finalizing Barnet Park development plans.

This is not to say that no work will be done on Barnet Park this summer. On the contrary, the Calabogie Seniors are contributing a wrought iron entrance-way to the Park, which will be installed this summer. In addition, clean-up of the grounds continues and repairs to Barnet Cottage also continue. A ramp for visitors in wheel chairs will be installed and picnic tables will be refurbished.

This delay in development should not deter citizens from donating to the Park. All donated funds go into a reserve fund that is designated only for Barnet Park development. Donated money does not go into general funds, contrary to some rumours circulating.

In Barnet Park citizens of Calabogie have the possibility of seeing something akin to a town centre. That is an important development for a town that is so decentralized. Barnet Park will be an important part of Calabogie for years to come, so it is important that it is done right.

Denbigh Checking In !!!

By Melody Jones

As the school year starts to come to a close, the students of Denbigh Public School have much to remember and still more to look forward too!

I last reported that the "Jump Rope for Heart" event held during the month of May had raised, at the time of my submission, \$421.50 in pledges. After all pledges were in, the final tally was a very impressive \$1,008.80. Thank you to all the students who participated.

The Grandparents and Special Friends Tea was well attended with 110 guests, including students and staff, present. Everyone enjoyed the tea, the classroom visits, the entertainment provided by the students and just being with their special student.

The students are now looking forward to the following

dates and more adventure: June 23 Experience the Power of H20 - a start at 12:30 and every student is asked to bring a towel, sun screen, hat and clothes that can get wet and dry clothes for the trip home.

June 28 Awards Day at 1:00 p.m. in the school gym.

June 29 The last day of school!

A special thank you to the two classroom tutors, Rebecca Lloyd and Alyson Butler, who not only helped out in the classrooms but have also put together the annual year book.

The Denbigh Public Library will be offering the Toronto Dominion Summer Reading Program "Blast Off". The program dates are August 4, 11, 18 & 25, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Drop in at the Denbigh Public Library to sign up or call 333 1426 for more information.

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Fishing with Jim

By Jim Weatherall



Well folks - pickerel (walleye) season opened with abundance of fish caught, both large and small. A few legal fish (19.7" and up) were

caught in Calabogie, Black Donald and Centennial Lakes. As of June 17ⁿ, the pickerel were still near the spawning beds as spring was late in arriving.

Hats off to a new fisher person from Calabogie, who started fishing this year and has pushed her husband to fish harder to keep up. She caught herself a 3.81b. Northern pike on her first time out, along with several pickerel which did, however, have to go back as they were not big enough for the pan. Keep up the good work Lucie MacDonald. Well Done!!

Bass season opens in our area on the last Saturday of June, namely June 25'n

this year. Large Mouth should be found in heavier weed cover while Small Mouth can usually be found in deeper, rocky-bottomed areas. Both species will hit on rubber worms and top water lures.

No size restrictions on bass make them a very popular and aggressive fish to catch and with a limit of 6 for sports license and 2 for conservation license, an angler has a good supply for several meals. A good angler, however, will only keep those fish that are well over 12 inches as smaller ones don't provide a very large meal.

Keep your stories coming as I've enjoyed them. I promise not to embarrass anyone when I tell them in print.

Please conserve our natural resources and use live release fishing methods wherever possible.



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Community Calender

CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE

GRIFFITH AND MATAWATCHAN

St. Andrew's United Church

Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m. Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Minister: 333-2381

Our Lady of Holy Rosary Catholic Church

Griffith: Sat. Mass 7:30 p.m. Sunday Mass 11:00 a.m.

Hilltop Tabernacle

Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship 11:00 a.m. Evening Service 7:00 p.m.

DENBIGH AND VENNACHAR

Vennachar Free Methodist Church

Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Luke's United Church

Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Minister: 333-2381

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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

The New Apostolic Church

Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. Wednesdays 8:00 p.m.

CALABOGIE

The Calabogie Bible Fellowship Congregational Church

The Mill Street Chapel at 538 Mill St., Regular service – Sundays 7:00 p.m.

Most Precious Blood Catholic Church

504 Mill St., Rev. Father Pat Blake Saturday 5:00 p.m. Sunday 10:30 a.m.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church

Mount St. Patrick Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Calabogie St. Andrews United Church

1044 Madawaska Dr. (on the waterfront) Church Services Sunday Mornings at 8: 45 a.m.

Communion - 1st Sunday of every month.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Calabogie

Calabogic Crafts: Every second Monday of the month at the Community Centre (call Marjorie Watts at 752-2598)
Calabogic Seniors: Pot luck dinner and meeting – the last Thursday of each month – Community Hall begins at 4:00 p.m.

St. Andrews United Church Calabogie Canada Day

followed by dinner and meeting.

Meal Deal --Hot R/B on a bun with baked beans, cake and a drink \$6.00 Hotdogs with a drink \$2.00

1/2 the proceeds to the Canada Day fireworks

Coming to Calabogie - 1st Annual Youth Gospel Fest

Aug 13. (1 pm to 4 pm) If you can play an instrument or sing we need you. All ages can participate, Youth band coming from Frankford Ontario. Call Pastor Bill Griffith 752-2201 or Marjorie Watts 752-2598

Canada Day – July 1

Begins with breakfast at Community Centre

Main activities begin at 4:00 pm Fireworks at 9:45 pm See Township ad for details

Calabogie Fun Day – July 23

Breakfast (8 am till 11:00 am) See article for details

Griffith & Matawatchan

Matawatchan Summer (Canada Day) Picnic

Saturday July 2 – Matawatchan Hall Beef Stew lunch followed by live music all afternoon

Matawatchan Summer Dance Cancelled

Baseball Game

Matawatchan Hall 1:00 pm

St. Andrews Church Strawberry Social Saturday July 9 – 5 till 7 pm

Kids Fishing Derby

Saturday July 16 – 10:00 am Holleran's Hidaway

Busy Bees Craft Club

Meet the second Tuesday of every month at the Matawatchan Hall. (Contact Jackie Jenks at 333-5542)

"Northern Lights" Seniors

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

Community Bus Service

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

Fellowship Luncheon

These meals are held the first Wednesday of each month at noon. Please contact Pat Holleran at 333-1229 or Lois Robbins at 333-1082 The location alternates between the Griffith Lions Hall and St. Andrew's United Church, Matawatchan. - Cost \$5.00.

Denbigh Diners Club

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

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

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September 24/25, 2005 Fall Retreat Julie Johnston, 2 x Governor General's Award Winner & YA author speaks about self-editing, includes additional workshops.

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Calabogie Fun Day

By John Watts

What are you doing on 23 July 2005? Come out and have some fun, support the community and Guinness World Record!

My name is John Watts and I am the co-chair of the Calabogie Fun Day committee. Isobel Kristjian is the other co-chair. This committee was formed to raise funds for local projects and last year was our first attempt at trying to create an annual fun day for the community. The committee is made up of community volunteers who willingly give up their time to make this community a better place to live This year (as well as last year) we have selected the Barnet Park Project as recipient of monies raised. Our committee has been meeting on a regular basis and has been planning the "2005 Calabogie Fun Day". We have selected Saturday 23 July as this year's fun day and hope to have a good day to bring participants from near and far.

The fun day is oriented to maximum community participation. We have participation from Seniors Club,

Club, Lions Club, Recreation, Fire Fighters, Fish and Women's Institute. Game Club, CABA, and other volunteers have come forward to organize a full day of games and activities for the children and adults alike. As you can see the community is behind us all the way. This year we are holding several tournaments and fun for the whole family. There is also a raffle for \$1000.00 with tickets available at all local businesses and from committee members.

The tournaments consist of "Slow Pitch" ball and to date we have four teams entered to play. The second Tournament is a "Horse Shoes" which will be open to teams and single competition. The day will start out with a Pancake Breakfast (8-11) sponsored the Calabogie Seniors Club. Registration for Horseshoes and Youth games will commence at 09:30 with games starting at 10 a.m. The slow pitch will run all day. The snowmobile club will start their Bar B/Q 12 noon. The Magic Show will start at 11 a.m.

This year we have applied for and received direction on setting "Guinness

World Book of Records" by having the "LONGEST HUMAN FLOATING LINE". We fully expect we will be successful. All we need is participants to show up with their "Personal Floatation Device" and perhaps a noodle if we can't get a sponsor. Just think - you and your family can take part in setting a Guinness World Record right here in Calabogie.

More details of this event will be published as we near the fun day date. The evening will close with awards presentations and a dance. A live band the "Disturbing the Peace" will play starting a 9 a.m. All events will be taking place around the Calabogie community centre and rink. Of course the attempt to set a world record will take place at Barnet Park beach. Some of the fun games for the kids will include ball hockey, and remote car racing sponsored by the Calabogie Motor Sports with the winner taking home the car.

For information concerning the event and registration contact John Watts 752-2598 or email: jkwatts@sympatico.ca

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Ottawa Valley Crossword

By Doug Bell

ovcrosswords@gmail.com

Across

- 1. Singer Guthrie
- 5. Roman Empire invaders
- 10. Young newts
- 14. Enjoy Ondaatje
- 15. Up (cornered)
- 16. Milano coins.
- 17. Italian wine district
- 18. A "mom and pop," e.g.
- 19. Light bulb, in comics
- 20. Pakenham's photo shoot
- 23. Black cuckoo
- 24. Chop wood
- 25. Remington-
- 27. Blue Nile source
- 29. Back from fore
- 32. Up and about
- 33. He was #4 on ice
- 35. Company's man
- 37. Half the width of ems
- 38. "Shake Hands With The Devil", author
- 43. Big ___, California
- 44. Canadian sports channel
- 45. Prov. with Canada's first expressway
- 46. Sharp as
- 49. Canadian bike manufacturer
- 51. Eastern religion
- 55. Folk dialect
- 57. Summer hours in Sharbot Lake
- 60. World's oldest road race: 26 miles,
- 385 yards

- 64. Homestead

- 68. Curling great Richardson
- New Mexico
- 72. Scholarship basis, sometimes

Down

- 1. Yasser (Middle East leader)

- 8. Rosemary, e.g.
- 10. Skips over

- 26. Hesitating sounds
- 30. Albanian coin
- 31. Business card abr.
- 34. Stuff and nonsense

- 66. Brass wind instrument

- 11. Nervous Nellie
- 12. Canada's tundra is above this
- 13. Black or Red
- 21. Plow blade
- 22. "Give ___ rest!"
- de plume

- 67. Banking fee
- 70. Pueblo people living in northern

- 3. Neighbour of Estonia
- 4. Garfield's friend?
- 6. Pontiac was one
- 7. Disney sci-fi film: 1982
- 9. Clairvoyants
- - 42. Part of T.G.I.F.

- 65. Body of water at International

- 69. It's heard on the Braesides
- 71. Procrastinator's word

- 5. Acadia peninsula

- - 41. Baker of music
 - 43. Nincompoop
 - 47. Creation

36. Arafat's gp.

38. Swedish turnip

40. W.W II medal

39. Handel's "Messiah," for one

- 48. Young ferret 50. Hardhearted one
- 52. Pakistani city
- 53. Strong as ___

- 54. Staffed
- 56. City on the St. Lawrence 58. Household appliance
- 61. City near Osaka, Japan
- 62. Top-notch condition 63. At that moment
- 64. Cosby's " Albert"

Answers found on page 26

Whitetail Deer

By Floris Wood

The regal and graceful white-tailed deer (Odocoileus virginianus) can be found in most areas of southern and central Ontario. The total range of this species covers nearly all of North America (except the far northern reaches and some western states in the U. S.). They go as far south as the Amazon River in Brazil. There are about 30 subspecies of White-tailed deer, 16 in North America. The species is believed to have originated in Central America around three million years ago. The most common subspecies in Ontario is the Borealis or northern woodland white-tailed deer. The white-tailed deer is smaller than most other northern members of the deer family (Cervids) including the Moose and mule deer, but the Borealis is one of the largest white-tailed deer.

Moose populations and white-tailed deer populations do not overlap very far because of the wasting disease in moose known as "Moose disease". The white-tailed deer is the normal host of P. tenuis, the parasite that causes the disease in the Moose's nervous system.

The breeding cycle of white-tailed deer begins with much fanfare in the fall when does come into heat. This

breeding season, or rut, takes place from October through December and reaches its peak usually in November. Each individual doe varies in when, during the rut, she is actually in heat. A female's heat period usually lasts only about 24 hours. A summer of poor nutrition can bring on a later rut. Older, healthy females usually will go into heat first, followed by young females and older females weakened by malnutrition. Also some does sometimes attach themselves to an attractive male buck for several days before she actually goes into heat and allows him to breed with her. If she is not successful in attracting a buck during the first heat period, she will probably go into heat 28 days later. This too accounts for a late rut.

Buck behaviour changes dramatically during the rut. Over the summer he has developed a set of antlers that were covered with a fur known as velvet. As the velvet matures it irritates the buck and he scrapes bushes and trees trying to get it off. When, at last, the offending fur is all rubbed off the antlers, the antlers are hard and ready to do what they are made for, intimidate other deer. As the rut approaches, the Buck's neck thickens from wielding

continued on page 15

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Whitetail Continued

his heavy set of antlers to get rid of the velvet and in mock battles with bushes, trees and fence posts. He stakes out his rutting territory by making scrapes on trees with his antlers. He begins to scrape trees which form a scrape line that defines an area that, at least in that

fights is death for both bucks when their antlers become locked together.

Bucks try to gather together a harem of females that the buck will breed with as each one comes into heat. Does learn quickly that bucks are not always the stately gentlemen they appear to be.



buck's mind, is his. Other bucks may argue about overlapping rutting territories. Unlike the mule deer, which are great bluffers. The white-tailed deer fight serious fights, inflicting injury if necessary to convince interlopers that there will be a serious price for entering this part of the woods again. Unfortunately for some deer the unintended consequence of these

They can be quite rough in their courtship even to the extreme of goring a female. A doe might not be ready to stay with a buck in their first few encounters and he can be quite frank about his displeasure at being rebuked. She usually learns the pattern of his daily rounds and will hide herself off his

continued on page 16

Whitetail continued

usual path until the time comes that she is ready to take her place in his harem.

These does will remain within the buck's scrape line during the rut. They will spend a lot of their time together in one small area of the buck's territory. The buck travels his domain daily, looking for new does and renewing and enforcing his scrape line. When he approaches his harem he usually does so from downwind. He sniffs the air with flaring nostrils trying to discover if one of the does has come into heat. Hunter's will sometimes locate a harem and, calculating the buck's downwind approach path, try to place themselves where they will get a clear view of the buck as he travels his anticipated path to his harem.

After successfully breeding, a female will deliver a fawn in about 6½ to 7 months later, sometime in late April through early June. Again, nutrition is a factor in the number of offspring delivered. Young does and undernourished older does usually deliver a single fawn. But a well nourished older doe will often deliver two fawns. Three fawns are fairly rare and only a few does have ever been observed with four fawns.

Mother white-tailed does have also been known to abandon their fawns that have come in contact with humans. For this reason researchers studying white-

tailed fawns take extraordinary precautions to leave little or no scent behind when studying fawns. The mother beds down the fawn in high grass or ferns. If somebody draws near the fawn knows instinctively to lie perfectly still with its head erect. The fawn's camouflage of dappled white spots and its nearly scentless body provides excellent protection. With the fawn so well hidden the doe may stray away for some distance in her search for browse and remain away for as long as four hours.

Researchers can locate fawns by the behaviour of the does. A mother doe will be reluctant to run away at the sight of a human, but will hold her ground to see if the fawn is threatened. Researchers use latex gloves on their hands and place a sock over the fawns face to calm it. Frankly, that would not calm me. To avoid contaminating the bedding site they carry the fawn 30-40 feet away from the bedding site to tag, weigh, collar or otherwise work on the fawn. Then they carefully replace the fawn on its original bedding. Amazingly, only a few fawns abandon the bedding site when replaced.

Such studies show that the survival rates for fawns vary greatly from area to area but it does not bode well for the fawn in the best of circumstances. A study of two different

areas of Pennsylvania yielded death rates of 70% and 43% of the fawns before they were one year old. A total of 98 fawns were radio collared, of which 54 were dead within a year for a combined mortality rate of 55%.

Cause of death Number Disease or Starvation 17 Coyotes 11 Bears 6 Bobcats 3 Unknown Predator 7 Hit by Cars 4 Other Accidents 3 Poaching 1

Of the three suffering accidental deaths one was entangled in a fence, one fell into an abandoned well and one was killed by a haybine.

Legal Hunt

White-tailed deer populations are particularly susceptible to climate. In Ontario a harsh winter can kill thousands of deer. Deer are not hibernators and need nutrition year round. Even going into a winter fat and healthy is no guarantee of survival. Hence, annual deer populations fluctuate greatly. In a year with a lush summer, which is followed by a mild winter, a high sur-

vival rate and a high fertility rate can be expected the next year. Departments of natural resources will issue hunting licenses quite liberally in order to decrease the number of animals that will starve the next winter, especially if it is a bad winter. Natural resources professionals know the general white-tailed deer carrying capacity of their geographic area when climate is within the normal range. A deer count exceeding that capacity will trigger the issuance of more hunting licenses, just as an undercount will trigger the tightening of hunting restrictions. Overpopulation of deer increases not only winter starvation but also auto/deer collisions, disease transfer and over browsing. Over browsing badly hinders the reforestation of timbered lands or abandoned farms is d because fewer seedlings survive the deer browse.

A fawn that survives past its first year is still susceptible to predation in areas where large predators exist. In general, though, the deer population has boomed in recent years thanks to successful wildlife management programs, the abandonment of many farm lands and the clearings that timbering creates. In addition, the adult deer's predators are the same

continued on page 23

Métis Jamboree planned for Matawatchan

The Renfrew Woodland Métis Association is planning a long weekend (July 29 – August 1) Jamboree and Rendez-vous at the Matawatchan Community Hall. It will be a huge event for the village of Matawatchan since Métis from across the province will be invited. It's not an exclusive affair however and everyone is welcome. Event organizer Kent Gauthier is expecting five to six hundred people to attend.

The event is being co-sponsored by the Matawatchan Community Hall. Friday July 29 is seen as a set-up day when visitors can establish accommodations either on the limited space available on the Matawatchan Hall grounds or offsite in the vicinity of the village. The geographic township of Matawatchan has a number of trailer parks where visitors can stay. A dance with a cash bar is planned for the evening dances.

The "grand opening" will be at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, after which there will an afternoon of live music on the out-door stage. The tone of the music is traditional: country music, fiddlers and step dancers. Dinner, which is catered by a local business, takes place in two sittings between 4:00 and 7:

00 p.m. followed by a dance featuring live music. Similarly, Sunday's activities include live music, a dinner and a dance. In addition, there will be games, with prizes for the children and craft tables with handiwork for sale.

A weekend pass will be \$25 and a daypass \$15. Elders (75 years and older) and children under 12 years will be admitted free. When details are finalized, especially about the live entertainment, the public will be informed.

For more information, contact: Charles Vilweffat (613) 333-2741 or Kent Gauthier at (613) 432-3177 or visit the website at: www.rwmaa.bravehost.com

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Agenda topics also include an overview of recent developments at OPG, a general public safety update, and information on water levels and flows.

Meeting will be held at the location and time listed below. Following the presentation, there will be an opportunity to ask questions. OPG representatives will be available to discuss individual issues. We look forward to seeing you there.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 13 Upper Madawaska River meeting

St. Paul's Anglican Church Hall 1048A Mill Street Combermere

7:00 - 9:30 PM

For more information, please call Linda Halliday at (613) 932-3072 ext. 3304.

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Mould and the Indoor Environment reaction

By George White

In recent years, the illnesses related to occurrences of indoor mould have become better recognized and understood. Much attention has been given to mould issues in the news: buildings have been evacuated, mould disturbed by construction has been suggested as a link to the death of patients in hospitals, schools have been closed, houses have failed pre-purchase building inspections and at least one home in Alberta has been deliberately burned to the ground all because of mould. As public awareness of the issue has increased, so has the paranoia about these mysterious and microscopic organisms. Over reactions to mould are routine and astute individuals often try to use mould to try to achieve political goals, especially where school boards are concerned. A discussion of the scientific complexities related to this issue has been deliberately avoided here in preference for the practical aspects of the indoor mould as it might relate to the Highlander audience because mould is alive and well and living in many homes within this area.

Mould exposures produce two general types of symptoms categorized as allergenic and toxigenic. An allergenic reaction is likely to occur whenever a sensitive individual has a direct exposure (usually through the nose or mouth or on the skin) to fungal spores. The allergenic symptoms cover a wide range and include stuffiness, congestion, wheezing, eye irritation, joint soreness and fatigue. The toxic reactions are more likely to occur when individuals are exposed to air borne volatiles produced by fungi, by ingestion of mould-contaminated food or by inhalation of massive quantities of airborne toxic fungal spores. The latter is most likely to occur when a mould colony is disturbed and it usually occurs to the individual who disturbs the colony. The exposure to toxins may result in the continuous cold and flu-like symptoms, headaches, nausea, joint soreness, depressed immune systems, increased upper respiratory illnesses, memory loss, disorientation and fatigue. These symptoms are nonspecific and can be caused by a number of other illnesses and conditions. However, if an individual has such symptoms, does not respond to medical treatment and is living in a mouldy environment, there is a good chance that the moulds may be contributing to their illness. A mouldy environment is an indoor setting that is supporting actively growing mould colonies or that is still harbouring residual mould contamination following a flood

or other mould supporting event.

Mould will occur indoors whenever liquid moisture is continuously present for more than 3 days. Typically moisture sources can be categorized as leaks, floods and condensation although floods are really just leaks of gigantic proportions. Moisture can also permeate a home through dirt floor crawl spaces or accumulate in inadequately ventilated, well sealed homes. Contrary to popular opinion, there are more young homes with mould issues than old ones that tend to provide forgiveness through drafty ventilation. Drywall exposed to moisture from leaks, floods and condensation are particularly adept at growing a wide variety of fungi. Some, like Stachybotrys chartarum, can become very nasty since this mould produces some of the most powerful mycotoxins known. Ingestion of very large quantities of this fungus in mouldy straw or hay can kill an adult horse so it is no surprise that a human over-exposure even through inhalation can lead to a very serious illness. Mould is seldom lethal in healthy individuals but can become pathogenic and fatal in individuals with severely depressed immune systems - typically cancer and AIDS victims and older people who are very weak and bedridden. Most individuals tolerate mould well but some have extreme sensitivity and react to very low concentrations. Rarely do all the

occupants of a home or building react the same way to mould exposures.

Preferred substrates for fungi include drywall, leather, cardboard, paper, clothing, canvas, jute-backed carpets and wood but under excessively high humidity fungi will virtually cover every available surface on which condensation forms. In some basements with high humidity and poor ventilation, it is more difficult to find items without mould on them than with mould. Even painted metal desks and ducts can support mould growth.

Condensation often occurs around windows, at the junction of a wall and ceiling or in a corner, or in closets forming limited to highly visible mould colonies. Entire walls in basements can become contaminated. Small areas are low in risk and often indicative of construction or insulation deficiencies. The most common and most subtle form of condensation occurs in most homes directly on the cool basement floor during hot spells when humidity is high. This type of mould growth tends to be invisible to the unaided eye but can produce huge numbers of airborne spores every time the environment is disturbed. Homes at the greatest risk have cool basements, do not run their furnace fans continuously to even out temperature extremes or do not use central air to dehumidify the

continued page 26

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NOTICE

The audited Financial Statements, the Notes to the Financial Statement, the Auditor's Report and the Tax Rate Information for 2004 and 2005 will be made available upon request at no cost to any Taxpayer or resident of the municipality, in accordance with The Municipal Act, 2001, Chapter 25 s.295 (1) (a) (ii) and 2.295 (2).

NOTICE of JULY MEETINGS

COMMITTEE Meetings

Council Chambers Public Works July 6/05 4-6 PM July 7/05 Council Chambers 12 - 2 PM Finance & Admin July 7/05 Council Chambers 2-4 PM Public Services Planning & /Econ. July 7/05 Council Chambers 4-6 PM

Committee of The Whole Council

Thursday, July 14th, 2005 Council Chambers 5 PM

Monthly Council Meeting

Thursday, July 28th, 2005 Matawatchan Community Hall

Calls for Citizen Participation

By John Baird, CAO Greater Madawaska

The Township of Greater Madawaska has changed its approach to the work of the municipality recently. As a result of changes to the Council structure, and new administration, the Township of Greater Madawaska is seeking various interested citizens who would enjoy the opportunity to get involved with the decision making process.

In April, the Council changed the way in which they deal with the business by approving a Standing Committee Structure for Council business. As part of an overall restructuring plan, Council established the following committees that will focus on various aspects of municipal life. The Standing Committees are as follows:

- Finance and Administration Public Works
- Public Services
- Planning and Economic Development
- Strategic Planning and Visioning

Each of these standing committees is made up of members of Council, the Reeve and the CAO/Clerk - Treasurer. Members of the public may be invited to participate on these committees from time to time, based on interest and expertise that can be brought to the committee.

The committees deal with the following topics:

Finance and Administration - deals with all financial matters of the municipality, establishes policy, deals with Human Resource issues and matters of administration of the municipality.

Public Works - deals with all municipal infrastructure issues including roads, waste management, water, waste water, buildings, vehicles and similar "hard" assets of the municipality.

Public Services - deals with all programs and services of the municipality, including recreation, library, fire department, policing, emergency management, and special events.

Planning and Economic Development

- deals with all planning related issues including zoning amendments, minor

variances, subdivision developments, as well as economic development issues for the municipality.

Strategic Planning and Visioning - As the name of this committee suggests, the purpose of this committee is to develop a long term vision for the community, develop a list of priorities that residents wish the community to focus on, and generally to coordinate the long term development of the community.

As a further means of encouraging local citizen involvement in the life of municipal government, Council has also established a series of "Lower Tier Committees". These Lower Tier Committees will be made up primarily of non-elected residents of the community who have an interest in a specific area of expertise. These committees will act as "advisors" to the standing committees of Council in that they will do detailed research on various topics, provide recommendations to the standing committees for consideration Council and may undertake special activities from time to time.

The current list of lower tier committees seeking volunteers includes:

- Roads Committee
- Minor Variance/Committee of Adjustment
- Fire Management Committee
- Barnet Park Development Committee
- Waste Management Committee
- Recreation Committee
- Emergency management Committee
- Fund Raising Committee
- Economic Development Committee

Council will add committees to this list as a need is identified.

Citizen Volunteers Needed

The committee structure is a means by which ratepayers of the Township can become involved in the determination of how the municipality will develop over the next number of years. The success of the committees will largely depend on residents stepping forward to volunteer to serve on a committee that interests them. It is absolutely essential that ratepayers from all parts of the community, and all wards become involved to ensure that the entire community is represented and has input

continued on page 21





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Participation continued

into the decisions of the municipality.

What is involved in volunteering for a committee?

Basically, all you need to become involved in the committees is an interest in an area or activity covered by one of the Lower Tier Committees, an enthusiasm for participating in and influencing of the decisions of Council, and a desire to make a difference in the community. Apart from those qualities, volunteers need some available time to attend a monthly meeting!

How do I get involved?

If you have an interest in becoming involved in a committee, the process is very simple! All you have to do is:

• Send a letter to the Township office, to the attention of

the CAO, expressing an interested in getting appointed to a committee, and which committee you want to volunteer for.

- Send an email to the CAO at johnabaird@on.aibn.com
- Phone the Municipal Office at 613-752-2222 or 800-347-7224
- Talk to a member of Council and express your interest.

The committee structure and call for volunteers is aimed at getting citizens of the community more involved in the decisions of Council, within the parameters of the Municipal Act. The success of this effort will depend very much on the willingness of ratepayers to step up to the plate and GET INVOLVED!

E

Highland Aboriginal Women's Group

We invite ALL women to come and join in friendship, crafts and more. Originating in 2003 the idea behind our group was to unite women of a common mind, to share Native teachings and to be supportive of each other on our individual journeys. Our goals are helping each other find inner peace, caring for our environment and Mother Earth; as well as being respectful of the Native Culture that we want to learn from.

We had no idea how great a need there was for this kind of group. Many times we've had 20 plus ladies out on a single evening. Our meetings are held on Wednesday evenings beginning at 7:00 p.m. For information about the group or where we will be meeting please call Mary at 333-5120 or Suzanne at 333-9333. This is a very informal gathering of women for a time of sharing the teachings, crafts, fellowship and lots of laughs. We invite all women

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In anticipation of the Métis Rendezvous, July 30, 31 and August 1st, we have been very busy making Native Crafts for a booth we will have at the event. There will also

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Another Place at the Table: My Mother's Story

By Mary Cook

Editor's note: This excerpt from Mary Cook's Another Place at the Table: My Mother's Story is reproduced here with her kind permission and that of her publisher Creative Bound Inc. The book has been selected as the book for Renfrew County to read in the One Book - One Community program initiated by Renfrew County librarians. This excerpt taken from Chapter 21 of the book describes how Mary Cook's mother ultimately found herself in Renfrew County. Mary's mother, Mabs, has returned from New York City to Canada after the sudden death of her husband. She is without resources and Mary has just been born.

The first time Mabs saw Albert Haneman was through the kitchen window on his next trip to Ottawa with produce. He was dressed for the elements. Fur hat with lugs tied under his chin. A mackinaw coat over a pair of what appeared to be bib overalls, with work pants peeking out at the ankles. His cowhide mitts covered his hands, and a pipe protruded from his mouth. His face looked small and dark skinned. He spotted Mabs in the kitchen window, nodded his head and then moved on. Mabs thought he looked awfully

small and that his clothes looked too big for him. "He looks like he could use a good meal," she said to herself.

It was a Saturday, so John Lapointe was home that day. He emerged from the shed and followed Albert Haneman to the end of the lane. He was gone a long time, and Mabs wondered about his being out in the cold without his heavy coat on. When he came back in, he wore the look Mabs remembered as a little girl. It was his serious look, and Mabs wondered if the farmer had told him some bad news about his family out in Renfrew County.

"Mabel, I want to talk to you. You know I have only your welfare at heart. It seems you are intent on keeping the baby." He had yet to refer to the child by her given name. "I believe I have a solution for you, and I think it is the answer to your problem. The chances of your working in Ottawa are very slim when you have two young children." John cleared his throat, took a handkerchief out of his pocket and wiped his face which was covered with beads of sweat in spite of being out in the icy cold for half an hour.

"Albert Haneman needs someone to run his house. He is a busy farmer and is the third generation to live on his homestead. He is willing to take you and the children. It would be wonderful for young Emerson, and of course, you would still be able to keep your baby." For the first time he looked up at Mabs, who had taken a chair at the kitchen table. "He needs someone to run his house, and think of the wonderful life it would be for Emerson on the farm with animals and a school close by."

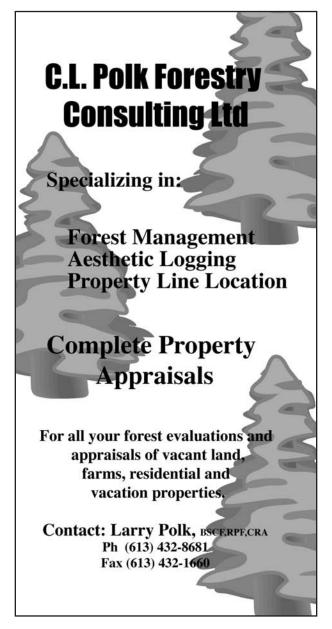
Mabs showed immediate interest. Maybe this was the solution. Maybe her prayers had been answered after all. Fingering her rosary had not been in vain. She looked down at the baby in her arms, and over at Emerson who had taken one of his grandfather's best ties and was weaving it around a chair leg. With two children, there were few options open to her. This would be a home for them, and she wouldn't have to worry about putting food in their mouths.

"I would have to have a small salary, because the children would need things from time to time. Would this Mr. Haneman be willing to give me a few dollars a month?" John squirmed in his chair and cast his eyes to the ceiling, drumming his fingers on the oilcloth-covered kitchen table.

"Well, I'm sure there would be a few dollars put at your disposal. But Mabel, Albert lives in a very small tight community. Deeply religious. Lutherans. Very church-going people. He could not take you just to live there as a housekeeper. There would be too much talk. Not fair to either of you. I suggested you marry for the sake of everyone concerned. The children would have a father. You would have security, and I know you would find him kind and trustworthy. Albert Haneman is one of the most honest people I know. Now, before you say no, think about your children. How can you possibly raise two young children with no home and no money?"

John Lapointe made it sound like an ideal solution. Mabs thought of it as a death sentence. And then she looked at her children and she knew Papa was right. She had very little choice if she was to give her children a home, and obviously making Lyon Street a permanent address for her, Emerson and Mary was not in her father's plans.

"Would we get to know each other first? I know nothing about him. I have only seen him through the kitchen window." "Well..." and then there was a long pause."Albert and I have talked and we have decided if you are agreeable, the wedding would take place, quietly of course, on his next trip into Ottawa." Mabs was astounded at how she and her children had been discussed and decisions made without consulting her. She thought better of showing the dismay she felt. She thought of this marriage as an arrangement. "I can't do much worse," she thought.







Whitetail continued

id the land of when they move into t. Unlike healthy adult moose, which can fend off even a pack of wolves, white-tailed deer are vulnerable to wolf predation or even feral dogs. A deer can run fast and easily jump a two meter fence if threatened. However, they cannot run far and often, in their panicked state, they become entangled in fences. The average longevity of a deer in the wild is four years, however, many live to be ten, and, in captivity, they can live as long as twenty years.

You may love them for their beauty or hate them as a nuisance but these ghosts of the forest are our very close neighbours and knowing a neighbour helps us to live more harmoniously with them. There are many books or book chapters written about the white-tailed deer and I encourage you to go to the library at Calabogie and ask Mary Joan Hale for more information.

Council notes

By Bill Graham

Greater Madawaska has been in flux this year with many changes happening in the first six months of this calendar year. As of the end of June most changes are now in place but it is still unclear how successful this new model for governing the municipality will be.

Our new Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) John Baird has been the inspiration for most of the changes in how things are done in Greater Madawaska. When he assumed his position in early January, he immediately made suggestions for structural changes to the operation of Council, with the intention of streamlining Council operations. The new committee structure that was outlined in the last issue of The Highlander was the first change. Hiring more staff to run the municipality was the second change. Another hope in the new structure is the involvement of citizens in lower tier committees. Have a look at John Baird's invitation for involvement in this issue of The Highlander

By coincidence 'Roads Manager' Bob Gorra was retiring, so a new and expanded position was created entitled 'Director of Public Works'. In the interim Bob immediately came out of retirement to 'pinch hit' until a replacement could be hired. That replacement is Mark Hall, who is leaving a similar 'public works position in Iqualuit (Nunavut). Mr Hall begins work on July 4. Also hired in our municipal office are Chantal Coupal, who will be working on economic development and Jennifer Mulcahley who was hired as a new Clerk/Receptionist.

THE MATAWATCHAN PICNIC!

Celebrating 123 yrs. of tradition!

Saturday, July 2nd at The Matawatchan Hall

Full course Beef Dinner 12:00- 2:00 p.m Adulfs: \$10:00 Children (6-12): \$5:00 Children under 6 vrs. free

Musical Entertainment 2 - 4 p.m.

Bake sale, crafts, Children's games, Bingo Burgers and Hotdogs after 2 p.m.

Greater Madawaska's annual budget has been delayed because of structural changes happening in the municipality. It is six months late but it is now proposed and accepted. Consultation about next year's budget is planned to begin in September 2005 so that it can be passed in January 2006 and the municipality can get back on calendar.

Apparently taxes in the last few years haven't risen because the Township's reserve fund has been making up the shortfall from previous budgets. Dipping into reserve funds can only go on so long and eventually there must be a reckoning. The current budget, which was presented to Council by Councillor Bruce Parker on June 7, aims to rebuild the Township's reserve fund. Luckily, the Township has no short-term or long-term debt. However, working with projected revenues of \$4,853,041 and projected expenditures of \$4,941,328 there was a shortfall of \$88,287. That money will no longer be taken from the reserve fund so taxes will have to go up.

Seventy percent of revenue collected from taxes goes to either schools or Renfrew County. That leaves Greater Madawaska with a 30% share with which to operate. The tax increase, which will be 9.25%, will only be on the 30% share. This translates into an additional \$57.24 on a home assessed at \$100,000.

At the June 16 Council meeting the budget did pass, but it was close. Councillors Lehnhardt and Parker supported the budget but Councillors Mercer and Emon did not. The tie was broken by Reeve Kristijan who supported the budget proposal.

Fix the Matawatchan Road

By Bill Graham

Residents of Griffith and Matawatchan are totally frustrated with the state of the Matawatchan Road. They have been asking the Township and the County through Ward 3 Councillor Karin Lehnhardt for years with no tangible results. Karin keeps the issue before Council and raised it at the last Council meeting asking if there had been any reply from County about the Matawatchan Road—there had been none.

Local residents are now taking up the issue directly. Residents Carol Anne Kelly and Annabell Marshall are putting petitions on the subject of the Matawatchan Road in businesses and churches in the villages of Griffith and Matawatchan. The preamble of the petition is explicit: "We, the undersigned, petition the Township of Greater Madawaska and the County of Renfrew to do something about the deplorable condition of the Matawatchan Road. It is beyond more patches on patches on patches.... It is impossible to avoid pot holes. The shock systems and tires etc. of our vehicles can't handle it and are having to be replaced often. The road needs to he rebuilt. It is time to put a plan in motion. Give us something tangible for our tax dollars."

Resident, cottager, tourist, visitor or service persons travelling the Matawatchan Road are encouraged to sign the petition. You will find it in local stores, businesses and public facilities until the middle of July at which time it will be sent to the Council of the County of Renfrew with a copy to our own Township Council.

NATURAL DILEMMA

By Mary Joan Hale

I never considered myself a psychic. I leave that to others who are attuned to the mystic side of things. However, some very weird things have been happening lately that would even have the soothsayers in Ancient Rome calling a convention to ponder the signs. Hopefully, someone out there can explain why these events are occurring how at this time in Greater Madawaska.

One Monday afternoon after Betty Bowes had finished her volunteer duties; she came back into the library to announce that a mud turtle was walking through the door. animals are not allowed in the library, so we had to turn the poor soul away. Yes, she is a resident of the Township and all residents are eligible to obtain a library card. However, much as we do not like to discriminate, creatures with shells, feathers or fur cannot join the library. Sorry, that's a rule. Betty is much braver than I am, so she picked up this poor beast and brought her into the field behind the Township Office. Very shortly afterwards, I was loading my car as John Baird came out for a breath of fresh air. I told him about the disturbing event. We all know turtles are slow, right? Wrong! She was nowhere to be found. I guess she really did not want a card anyway and was just looking for a place to lay her eggs. When the After-school Club kids were leaving the library, they found her in the Township/Medical Centre Parking lot. I assume she was going for a prenatal check-up, but it was after hours, so no one was on duty. After a discussion with Craig, Evan, Amy and

Josh, brought her to the woods hoping that she could have the peace she seemed to be looking for all afternoon.

If this were the only strange happening, I would shrug it off, but today, Opie, my 'cat that walks by himself and all places are alike to him' was on top of the rain barrel. Opie hunts, hides, climbs trees, and sleeps on my daughter's bed, but never sits on the rain barrel. If it had been one of the other three, cats, so be it. Cats do like to perch in different places. Not Opie. I was shocked and ran for the camera. He took off before I could record this strange phenomenon. This too, adds to the mystery.

I have never planted May apples in the garden. Suddenly, this year, they are coming up all over the front bed. This is a lovely surprise indeed, but when added to the other events (only two of which have been noted here), it is an omen. These things never happened in the city. You only reaped what you sowed.

There, the signs have been revealed: turtles trying to join the library (or get prenatal care); Opie changing his routine; May Apples appearing in the garden; and other mysteries too scary to write here. What is being foretold about the future of Greater Madawaska? The money is on great things will be happening! You be the judge.

CABA Corner

Calabogie & Area Business Association accomplishments, 2004-05

By Carolyn Jakes

In the spring of 2002, the CABA was inactive, but by April 2003 there were 48 paid up members each of whom contributed a membership fee of \$25.00. By May 2004 there were 90 members and by May 8, 2005 there were 106 members—six of whom were not business owners. Monthly general meetings are held except for December, January and February. However, regular executive meetings are held monthly.

Fund raising

CABA's t-shirt sale, coordinated by Dwyene MacNabb, with "I partied on the lake in Calabogie", at the 2004 Canada Day Celebration in Calabogie raised \$1,953. The third annual Calabogie Fall Classic Golf Tournament raised \$2,549 and the 2004 raffle raised \$1,421. From these funds a donation of \$1,000 was made to Roger's House, The Ottawa Senators' Foundation home for children requiring palliative care, which is to be located on the grounds of the Children's Hospital in Ottawa and over the two year period (2003 to 2004), a total of \$5,613 was raised for Barnet Park.

Other projects and activities

Twelve water tests from the Madawaska River where it enters the township at Griffith and where it leaves the township near Burnstown were conducted by CABA member Don Beckett. The results indicate the E-coli counts are lower at the outlet than at the inlet. The water was found to be not potable but acceptable for recreational purposes.

Twenty banners purchased by CABA were again flying on hydro poles in Calabogie, depicting snow in the winter and the Canadian flag for the rest of the year. In support of increased tourism, \$500 was donated from CABA for bridge repairs in the village of Calabogie for the multiuse trail system. CABA also partnered with the township for a township-wide advertisement in the Ottawa Valley Tourist Association Travel Guide and donated \$500 towards the cost of the ad.

CABA's newsletter to all Township and Burnstown residences and businesses was replaced by a regular column called 'CABA Corner' in the Madawaska Highlander newspaper, which is published eight times a year and distributed to all residences and businesses in the Greater Madawaska Township and the Burnstown area at no cost to CABA. Extra papers are also placed at various business locations. Distribution is currently twenty-six hundred copies. In May 2004 and 2005, a four-page business directory insert was included in the Madawaska Highlander with all CABA businesses listed under categories similar to the directory available on the CABA website. Extra copies of the directory were made available to businesses wanting them.

Working on behalf of CABA member, Brian Hunt made a submission to the Ministry of Environment regarding the association's concern about legislation for small, non-residential water systems. CABA also works on behalf of its member at the local political level where three of its members (Brian Hunt, Debora Giffin and Carolyn Jakes) are members

of the Greater Madawaska Township Economic Development Committee.

A totally refurbished website for the association was developed in 2004 as a means to communicate with members, with the local community and with the Internet world. The new CABA web-site, www.calabogie.org, is updated on a regular basis by CABA member David Lester. With the hope of increasing the number of tourist visitors to the area CABA has a number of initiatives. For example, CABA appointed a Multi-use Trails Chairman, Danny Smith, who was also appointed as Trails Chair, Economic Development Committee, reporting to Township Council. Multi-use trails are seen as important draws to Calabogie and area.

CABA also initiated a project in the summer of 2004, identified by Don Beckett, which was completed in January 2005. It involved partnering with the Township of Greater Madawaska, the Ottawa Valley Tourist Association Calabogie Peaks and Sir Sanford Fleming College. Ten students from the College in Halliburton, who are studying in the Ecotourism and Adventure Tourism Management Program, completed a field study and a 69-page report, including recommendations, assist us in becoming an ecotourism and adventure tourism destination.

CABA applied to HRDC and received funding for a summer student for 2004 to work two days a week at the Calabogie Information Bureau so that the centre was open seven days a week instead of only five. The student also performed other CABA duties, such as preparing a black and white map of the area for tourists with businesses listed on the map, and helping to organize the annual golf tournament and raffle.

CABA organized a weekend booth at Lanark's The Art of Being Green Festival to promote our area. Business brochures and township statistics were distributed and art depicting the area was on display. Again CABA partnered with the township. One councillor and two CABA members (CarolynJakesandDeboraGiffin)shared the duty at the booth over the two days.

Issues to be addressed by the new executive in 2005-6

- 1. Promote team building within the association and with other community groups. Increase the number of non-voting members in CABA from other community groups to improve communication within the community and to focus resources/effort to achieve common goals. Increase the number of CABA members involved in CABA activities.
- 2. Work with the Township Economic Development Committee to obtain a more complete cell phone service, create more signage (directional and places of interest) in the township, create advertising/marketing brochures and maps of area for tourists, etc.
- 3. Follow up on recommendations from

a brown bottle, did I understand

- * Eco-tourism and Adventure Tourism Report
- * Base Line E-coli Study

End

the problem. The cow had been born and raised on John Martin's farm. John Martin was a Protestant. The supply of holy water was kept on the medicine shelf, over the kitchen door, with the salves, liniments and other potions used to keep a pioneer family and its livestock in good health. It was used as insurance against the only thing that really intimidated Grandmere - storms. At the first rumble of thunder she'd sprinkle a few drops around their windows and doors to ward off the lightning from thunderheads careening down the Madawaska Valley. Though she was devout – she admitted to holding her rosary when each of her twelve offspring was conceived - Grandmere was no bigot. She got along fine with Protestant neighbours. She was one however, who didn't believe in taking chances. She opened the gate and tried to get close to the skittish animal but her brusque manner and quick movements seemed to terrify it. For ten minutes

the heifer snorted and Grandmere

cursed as they ripped up the night

pasture in a desperate game of tag.

THE UNHOLY COW

By Garry Ferguson

Like a Madawaska winter that diverts attention from its ferocity with displays of serene beauty, *Grandmere* Bideau camouflaged her pugnacity behind the countenance of a sweet old saint. Only a fool though, would fail to take either seriously.

Grandpere Bideau on the other hand, was easygoing. Renowned throughout Tamarack Township as a wily horse trader and wheeler-dealer, he used his native wit and honed the skills required to cope with those ruthless winters — and with Grandmere. It wasn't until after her terrible brouhaha with the stubborn cow, however, that I began to realize the extent to which he relied on some of those skills in order to deal with the latter.

I was playing around the barn, on the evening of that episode, when I noticed *Grandpere* lumbering up the dusty road leading a brown heifer.

"Hey Maman! Come and see," he yelled toward the house as he released the animal into the night pasture and shut the gate. "I bought us annuder cow, eh."

Though private conversations were in the French that their parents had brought from Quebec, my grandparents seemed to have an agreement that all arguments meant to be overheard by others would be conducted in English. I suspect that Grandmere instigated this because she never swore in French. She believed this a sinful use of words she considered sacred. Her intimidating use of profanity in English however gave her the upper hand in most arguments.

"My God in heaven! What ta hell do you need wit annuder cow?" *Grandmere* shrilled as she burst into the yard. She pushed white hair off her forehead with a bony arm while she dried her hands on her long white apron. "Ya don' even know how much cows

ya got now - fer da lova Chrissake."

"Cripe woman! Come and see fur yurself," he offered waving a huge hand in the direction of the pasture. "Y'can see she's one damn fine beas'. Only twenty dollar, eh." "Well – I don't know. I s'ppose – not bad," *Grandmere* said as she inspected the animal. "Ya bought dis at da sale at John's?" Her voice had taken on a sharp accusing tone and the words came hard, like the ring of an axe on frost-hardened maple. "Non?" "Yyaah!" *Grandpere* nodded down at her as he wiped sweat from his round face with a dirty shirtsleeve.

She made her mouth so small that it disappeared into the wrinkles around it. Over her rimless glasses the blue eyes scorched him. Although she said nothing, I knew her back was up and there'd soon be hell to pay about something. Without a word, she turned and, straight as a soldier, marched back to the house.

Not until I saw her reappear with

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OUR EMBLEM DEAR

By Ernie Jukes

Like campfires and cottages, picnics and lightning bugs and black-eyed Susan's ...that exciting banner, the Canadian Flag, whipping in the wind, is a sure sign of summer. But it is also a sign of so many other wonderful times and attributes, which we so often take for granted.

More than any other time of year you will see our Canuck colours flying in the breeze--- proud and free ---- on land and on the sea. Since the first white men settled our shores over 1000 years ago, the endless tracts of maple trees have been impressive. The autumn in Canada, is as no where else, and produces the awesome, virtually breathtaking, scarlet maple leaves, which have stayed with us through time to signify the grandeur of the land. But perhaps more importantly for what this country has become, what it stands for today and what we have gained in respect by the other nations of the world.

The red maple leaf has been a symbol of Canada for over 500 years under French and British rule. The confederation of Canada's provinces took place

on July 1, 1867 and "our flag" was incorporated into the confederation as of December 15 in 1964. Audiences stand when our flag is raised and our anthem "O Canada", written by Calixa Lavallee in Quebec City on June 24, 1880, is played and sung. Our enormous sovereignty stretches from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific coast to the Arctic coast at the top of the world. The flag of Canada flies above all others on Canadian soil and is esteemed around the globe as exemplifying democracy and fairness to all. Proper protocol calls for each of us to keep our flag clean, never let it touch the ground when taking down. When it does become tattered or soiled it should be carefully folded and burnt and replaced with a new one. Men should remove their hats when it is raised or lowered.

Our red leaf is but one of many icons of the largest most blessed nation on the planet. It's as Canadian as apple pie and cheddar cheese, or maple syrup and pancakes, the canoe, a hockey stick, skis, a snowmobile or the famous Hudson Bay point blanket. It's as Canadian as the Inuit or Indian, the voyageur, cowboy, logger, oilman or

farmer. The red badge of courage is on our warriors and heroes of world conflicts and in our Mounties uniforms. It's on our winning athletes' shirts and a stamp of excellence on products from cars to trains or planes that we export around the earth. We have so many other symbols such as the Canada goose, beaver, Grizzly bear, wolf, elk, moose, or the Bluenose schooner, Rocky Mountains or totem poles. Then of course there is our humour, manners, integrity, stoicism, inventiveness, creativity and musical talent and arguably the best coffee at Tim Horton's. There is no end to the maturing list.

Our red and white flag represents us around the world as a people and country that promotes tolerance and peace by negotiation - not confrontation. It represents trust---we are the true north, strong and free. Our flag stands for many traits including its place as liberator of the oppressed-becoming greater as we grow---fly it proudly.

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333-5555

Mould continued

air. Often the areas around the water systems, pressure tanks and sump holes in a rural setting are prone to mould development from splashing or condensation. Cold well water causes water pipes to freely condense water. Cottages that are closed up and unheated during the winter that do not have regular air exchange with the outdoors seal in moisture that will condense, freeze and melt leading to mould development and musty spring odours.

Roofs, windows, foundations and plumbing are the usual sources of leaks. Slow leaks over a long period can produce some very well developed mould colonies and drywall supports some of the finest.

Flood water seeks the lowest level and often has the greatest impact on a basement. The quantity of mould growth present after a flood is dependent on the extent of flooding, the time it takes to dry up the area (within 3 days is preferred) and what is affected by the flood. Post flood damage usually shows up on the back side of drywall behind the baseboards where evaporation is restricted but larger areas of drywall can be affected if the humidity in a wall cavity is high. All types of flooring in a basement are subject to post-flood mould development including concrete if it dries slowly. Basements with wooden subfloors can create ideal habitats for moulds following a flood or if moisture permeates the concrete floor.

Mould colonies also attract a plethora of other creatures. Mite colonies will inevitably establish on an indoor mould colony. Populations under ideal conditions can expand very rapidly. Mites produce the most potent allergens known and often are more dangerous than the moulds they feed on. Beetles, moths and flies are also attracted to indoor mould colonies and

will graze them in a manner similar to the way cows graze grass. Spiders are fabulous "mould indicators" since they establish webs in moist corners and feed on the insects and mites that graze on mould. The more spiders and cobwebs that you have indoors, the greater the likelihood that you have mould as well. Don't worry about the occasional visitor that wanders in through doors or windows or enters with the firewood.

Mould prevention is easier than a mould cure. The "mould free" house (one in which mould colonies do not establish and grow) are free of leaks, cleaned regularly (including the basement) and maintained so that condensation does not occur in either winter or summer. When limited mould growth does occur around a window or bathtub or on a wall surface, it can usually be resolved with household cleaners and a bit of elbow grease. In situations where heavy mould contamination has occurred, typical mould removal protocols are performed by professionals and involve containment of the affected area, protection of the workers, controlled ventilation to prevent dispersal of spores to other areas, bagged removal of contaminated materials and proper clean-up before restoring the original condition. The cause of the moisture source that contributed to the mould development also needs to be addressed and repairs or modifications made to prevent future occurrences.

For the past 16-years, RIFDS Inc. has supplied mould diagnostic and consulting services to engineering firms, insurance companies, school boards, hospitals, churches, landlords, tenants, federal provincial and municipal governments, lawyers, doctors and owners of private residences. It can be reached at gwhite@lincsat.com or 613-333-1320 Monday to Friday 9 am to 5 pm.

Advertise with THE MADAWASKA Ad Cost per Issue B&W Colour Creative Cost** 1/4 \$50 \$110 1/3 \$65 \$143 \$30 1/2 \$100 \$220 \$30 3/4 \$150 \$330 \$30 ** Creative costs are applied to Ads requiring format development and manipulation of images. Minor changes to text on repeating ads will not be charged. Colour may not be available Contact: Richard Copeland Bill Graham Business Manager racopeland@northcom.net 333-1551 highlander@fcicanada.net 333-1694 RR#3, 1837 Frontenac Road, Griffith, Ontario, Canada K0J 2R0

Unholy cow continued

I hadn't seen my grandmother get so excited about an animal since the day she had to shinny up a tree when an ill-humoured bull *Grandpere* had bought somewhere caught her picking strawberries in its meadow. I snickered as I climbed onto the fence and settled down to watch.

Grandpere leaned his bulk against a top rail and made scratching noises by rubbing a callused palm over the grey stubble on his jowls.

Grandmere finally abandoned her bullying and attempted to lure her prey with a phoney smile, a bundle of sweet hay and a little coaxing. The prey became curious, stood still and stared at its tormentor. It studied the situation as though attempting to identify a motive behind the kindness, then slowly made several steps toward the offering, "Okay. Okay, ma belle," Grandmere cooed.

The cork stopper squeaked as she carefully twisted it out of the bottleneck, all movement shielded by her bundle of hay. The heifer moved within range, quivering from a mixture of fear and curiosity.

Grandmere dropped the hay. She stood erect, grasped her bottle in both hands, raised it and brought it down with a vicious chopping motion. In her apparent determination to win, she sloshed, what I guessed to be, a year's supply of holy water over the startled target's face. All four legs locked straight and rigid as though the poor beast was trying to stand on hoof tips. The head went up and it directed a string of gut-wrenching bawls skyward before plunging into a blur of jack-knifes and spinning buckleaps.

Startled, *Grandmere* dropped her bottle. Spryer than a sparrow, she leaped onto the fence before an echo from the first bellow had ricocheted off the barn.

I stopped snickering and considered getting to hell out of there, but instead I clung, like a drowning man, to my perch.

In its frenzy, the heifer finally headlong into fence post, then fell twitching. Grandmere, her thin-lipped composure intact, glared at the carcass. contraryolesonamonbeech!"sheyelled. "Yu'd sooner break yer goddamned neck dan become a good Cat-o-lique." Then without so much as a backward glance, she headed for her kitchen. For a few moments, Grandpere appeared to be in a trance. He muttered curses in French – or maybe prayers in Latin – then seemed to rally. "Holy gee cripe, woman!" he yelled. "What t'hell happen?" He removed his sweatstained hat and scratched his wide neck as he examined the remains then, with a glance in my direction, muttered, "She's sure enough dead, eh."

Grandpere dropped heavily onto one knee, bent over the head and sniffed as though hoping to smell some sign of life in those fixed nostrils. Then he shuffled over to pick up the bottle. "C'mere, Tommee," he growled, looking at me again.

Since the heifer had been anointed by the time it died, *Grandmere* allowed the carcass to be salvaged for meat. In fact, the beef was so tasty that for many years she insisted on anointing all candidates for the stew pot. Even offered her services to neighbours.

Grandpere continued to buy and trade livestock wherever he could sniff out a bargain. After each acquisition, Grandmere seemed to accept the explanation that it came from some "ole lad" with a French name - he used a variety - who lived "way t' hell downriver."

Whenever *Grandmere* repeated the strange tale of the suicidal cow, she'd head off any attempts to cast doubt on her version with a withering look at *Grandpere* and me. "Don't ever listen to dat dam' dotty old fool and dat young whelp dat still piss his pants," she'd sneer. "Only an idjit would say I mix 'dose brown bottle. Dat it wasn't da blessed water I trow on dat cow's face, but da goddam horse liniment.

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City Girl

All is well that ends well

By Filipa Martins

In the last issue I shared with all of you my first taste of country living. Since then, I've had more country adventures. We bought an old home, constructed approximately in 1904. The appeal and charm of an old country house has surely tempted many of you. Like many others, first we fell in love with the land and then decided to take on the very challenging house. I moved in with many decorating ideas, although I rapidly realized that urgent home improvement needs would take up all our time (and budget!) Our first winter we encountered a mountain of challenges firewood shortages, insulating urgencies, and the list goes on. Our initial challenge: water. Here are some excerpts from my journal...

November 7 - The water pressure is a bit low. It is probable that the expansion tank is not working properly. We got a different expansion tank. After trying it out, it seems that it was not the expansion tank.

November 8 – The pump is likely to be faulty. I suggested we pull it up from the well and have a closer look at it. So, we grab on to the pipe and pull. We got a lot of the soft black pipe up. All of a sudden, we pull and nothing happens. The pump is stuck. We wiggle and jiggle, but the pump won't budge. The pump is still below the water line, so I say: "Let's drain all the remaining water and see what is really going on with a flash light. After all, the well is only 30 feet deep, so we may be able to see what's holding it".

To avoid draining too much water into our septic system, we pulled the pipe that feeds water into the house. I pointed the end of the pipe into a bucket to collect water for cleaning. Adam was in the house ready to flip the breaker to turn on the pump.

I yell to him "Ready!" My eyes are fixed on the end of the pipe pointed into the bucket. Suddenly a jet of freezing cold water takes my breath away and I am soaked, still holding the spraying pipe. The bucket is empty. The water never made it to the end of the pipe, which I so carefully kept watching because there was a hole along the side of the pipe. I just happened to be firmly gripping the pipe with my hands on either side of this hole!

November 9 - We got enough water out of the well yesterday to have a

look at the pump. Not much could be determined. Since we can't pull it up, we are going to push it back down. A long branch will do the job, I thought. The branch reached the pump, but it couldn't push it back down. We push, and bang the stick, and... break the stick! So now there is a pump and a broken stick, stuck in my well.

November 10 – The great thing about a small community is the neighbourly way all were willing to drop by and help out. We got two long steel rods welded together as one for a total length of 40 feet. Now imagine a 40 foot, steel rod being transported on top of a pick up truck from the where is was welded back to my house. But even that couldn't push the pump. I called around for help, the usual reply was: "Stuck? It won't go back down either...Oh boy, I've never heard of that before!" Then, the experts said that they could get the pump out, but they would probably wreck my well in the process.

November 11 – The pump is not going anywhere. Since living without water isn't an option, we decided to get a jet pump and use it. It has worked marvellously. Unfortunately from all the fussing around with our well, it seems that we stirred it up just enough to raise its bacterial levels. We tested the water, it is not safe.

November 29 – Ok. The bacterial levels are not going down. We are going to sterilize our well. Apparently this is done by dumping bleach into the well, waiting about 12-18 hours and flushing it out. To flush it out we let water run in the house until we can detect the smell of bleach. As soon as we did, we hooked a hose directly to our jet pump (note: jet pump is located inside the house, under the stairs) and lead the hose through the sliding doors into the yard. We did this because it is not advisable to let all that bleach into the septic tank.

Just when I thought is was all going to work out, we detect a leak! At first we thought is was the hose and pump connection. But no—oh no. Having received that hose second-hand, and not having used it before... very quickly we realize it was a sprinkler hose. You know the type that has little holes all along it to water the grass...yeah... Water, water everywhere and not a drop to drink!

June 23 – Looking back, we got our pump stuck; I got soaked and also soaked the living room later on. Is there anything I can't do? Well, I did buy a llama, a milking goat and her baby. And the home improvement projects haven't stopped yet. I'll tell you more about it in the next Highlander!



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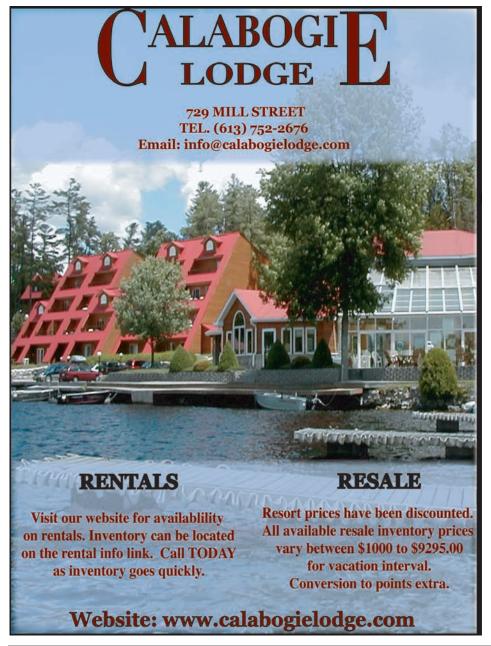
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