

The Madawaska HIGHLANDER

Volume 2 Issue 7

Priceless

November/December 2005

The Fire of 0 Three

By Garry Ferguson

Writer's note: *The author wishes to thank those who contributed to this account. It's good to know that Lynn McLaren, Boyd MacDonald, Ardean Kelly, Gail Holtzhauer, Elmer and Orval Strong were also fascinated by the tales of the old folk.*

Reflections of a Century (The Eganville Leader) reports that 1903 was a bad year for wildfires. Heavy losses of houses, livestock, sawmills and other property in Raglan Township, Denbigh and the Snake Creek area are itemized. Fortunately, no loss of life was reported. There are however, many accounts of lives saved by heroic rescues, by taking refuge in root cellars or submerging in bodies of water. In an interview with Elmer Strong forty years ago, Stanley Greg, of Vennachar, told of working in the Snake Creek area that day, of the destruction and of helping old people to root cellars. This account confirms the information contained in *The Eganville Leader* articles.

The greatest of these conflagrations however, on that day in April, 1903, was another fire remembered around Matawatchan as the "Fire of 0 Three" or the "Vennachar Fire" because many Matawatchaners believed that Ball's Lake near Vennachar was where it had started. According to a chapter written by Lorne Ball in an account of local history entitled *The Oxen And The Axe*, it was "the Big Fire." It was believed that "side fires" in the Glenfield / Rose Hill area and on the Kelly farm, (Juniper Road, Matawatchan) were merely offshoots of a north-travelling "spur" of the main Vennachar Fire. It was this "spur" that wreaked destruction as it swept through 'The Settlement' near Matawatchan.

From the few written accounts of the events on that day, it's evident that the inhabitants of each area remembered them in a different light, con-

sidering each branch of the fire to be the main blaze and the danger over when it moved out of their sphere of interest. According to C. Armstrong's *Away Back In Clarendon And Miller*, the fire began in the large tract of bush between Vennachar and the Mazinaw Lake, beyond the spot where the Global tower now stands. Fanned by a strong south wind, it razed Vennachar then moved south through Mallory Hill, Beech Corner and Fernleigh on its way to take out much of Ompah. Lorne Ball's article contained a similar version regarding the source of the fire and the loss of Vennachar, however, his account stated that the flames burned homesteads to the north, (towards Matawatchan) missing the Free Methodist Church and burning out around Ball's Lake when the rain came and doused the fire. Matawatchan people know that it was far from over at this point, indeed my grandfather and his Matawatchan contemporaries believed that this is where the fire started.

The flames continued down the Colton Creek Valley, burning bush at about the speed of a galloping horse while embers were carried on the strong wind, like flying torches, a mile or so ahead of the main fire. There would have been a story for each homesteader living on or near the swath that burned into Renfrew County, but unfortunately most have been lost. All records from this point are strictly anecdotal, passed down from our grandparents.

Ardean Kelly tells of his father, John, being sent home from school that day because of fear that fire could break out anywhere at any time. Gangs of men were called away from one fire to fight another, including the blaze that burned on the hill behind the Kelly house and barns.

Pat Carswell, who farmed in Glenfield and was absent from home when fire broke out, came back to find his homestead burned to the ground and



Autumn colour near Aird's Lake

Photo: John Roxon

First Response

By Bill Graham

If you live in the more remote parts of our municipality; especially in the western region around Griffith and Matawatchan, and you had a heart attack, you might have to wait as long as 45 minutes for an ambulance to respond. Often they can respond faster but 45 minutes is the outside limit. In many cases 45 minutes is too much time and you might die in the interim. This has been a long recognized fact of rural living but recent decisions have been made to lessen the time gap considerably.

Greater Madawaska will be the first township in Renfrew County to have an agreement with the County to allow 'first response teams' made up from our volunteer fire department to respond to medical emergencies until the paramedics from the Renfrew Ambulance Service arrive at the scene. These teams have been around in other Ontario jurisdictions since the 1980s providing a service to the communities in which they live. They are a group of dedicated volunteers who are on call 24/7 and respond to medi-

cal emergencies, motor vehicle collisions, and other emergency situations.

This agreement has been something that Council and the Greater Madawaska Fire Department have been working toward for the last three years. It has taken this long because first, all members of Council had to be brought on-board, then the jurisdictional questions had to be settled with the Renfrew County Ambulance Service and finally training for local firefighters had to be put in place and necessary equipment purchased.

The Township had hoped to offset some of the additional expenses, such as increased salaries for firefighters and equipment purchases with a JEPP grant from the province, but unfortunately the application wasn't accepted. The Township decided to proceed despite receiving no grant money. The safety of citizens was put first.

Most of the equipment, in the form of defibrillators to jump-start a stopped

Continued on page 3

Continued on page 2

Valley VIP

Real Estate

(613) 752-2882

Solid Professional Results

The bigger story behind Katrina

by Lynn Jones

In addition to causing enormous suffering, Hurricane Katrina has touched off an energy shock that may have severe repercussions in coming months. While it may be tempting to find fault right now with oil companies for price gouging, there is a much bigger picture unfolding behind the headlines of the human tragedy in the Southern U.S. and gas price spikes here at home.

energy that took millions of years and unique geological circumstances to develop. By way of illustrating how concentrated the energy in oil is, it has been suggested that “the flare given off by igniting an ounce of charcoal starter lasts a few seconds, but the energy was derived from, say, a prehistoric tree fern absorbing sunshine for nine years.” For another illustration, consider that it is possible to drive a compact car 6 km on the oil that would fill a pop can.

harder to get at (under oceans and Arctic tundra for instance), more difficult to extract and refine (from tar sands and oil shale for example) and therefore subject to diminishing returns in terms of the energy yield per unit of energy used for extraction.

Thus we are reaching the peak of world oil production at a time when our oil dependence is at a very high level, demand is increasing worldwide, and supplies are about to be sharply reduced. We can therefore expect the price of a barrel of oil to rise to several times its present level in the years ahead. So, while price spikes from Katrina are temporary, and prices may go up and down for several years, at some point in the not-to-distant future they are likely to begin an inexorable rise.

Unfortunately, alternative energy sources are not capable of replacing oil and gas at anywhere near the scale of our current consumption. Most alternatives are much less concentrated forms of energy, are less portable, less versatile, more expensive, and rely on oil at some stage of their production. Many alternatives will be used and will become increasingly important in the future, but no combination of known alternatives will allow energy consumption to continue at its present level.

Detailed analyses of the limitations of alternatives to fossil fuels are available on the internet. See page two of Life After the Oil Crash (www.lifeaftertheoilcrash.net); this site was the source of inspiration for Republican Congressman, beef farmer and scientist, Roscoe Bartlett of Maryland, who has recently made three hour-long speeches on “Peak Oil” in the American Congress; the speeches are on-line at www.bartlett.house.gov. Also see Energy Bulletin (www.energybulletin.net) and the Association for the Study of Peak Oil and Gas (www.peakoil.net).

Some names that people have coined for the difficult period we are now entering include the “Post-Carbon Era”, the “Long Emergency” and “Energy Descent”. As oil becomes much more expensive, and rapidly becomes a scarce commodity, we will have to learn to use a lot less energy than we currently do. We will also have to endure a period of economic and social turmoil, since our economy depends to a great degree on abundant cheap oil for its functioning. On the positive side, our lives are likely to become a lot less hectic and more centered in our local communities where we will be more intimately involved with our friends and neighbours and more often engaged in meaningful pursuits than is now the case.

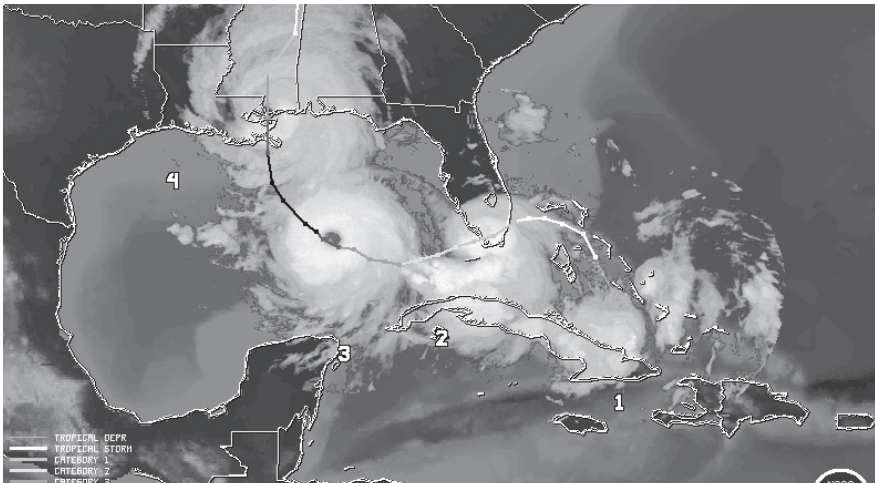
Some have seen this coming for a long time. M. King Hubbert, the Shell Oil geologist whose models are

First Response *continued*

heart, extraction equipment in the event of car accidents and emergency vehicles to transport volunteers has been purchased. Emergency First Response Teams will be established at each of the township fire stations—Griffith and Calabogie. Different teams have a specific call schedule during which they will be ready to respond on a 24/7 basis.

The Township’s first response service begins January 1, 2006. In case of emergency simply dial 911 as you would ordinarily. Dispatchers at 911 will contact the Greater Madawaska Emergency Response Team nearest to your civic address. The fully trained local emergency team will work to stabilize the situation until paramedics from the ambulance service arrive.

End



The storm track of Katrina

According to the Globe and Mail, “The hurricane has knocked out more than 10 per cent of U.S. refining capacity and virtually all oil and gas produced in the Gulf of Mexico perhaps for months....The hurricane also caused substantial damage to the distribution network, including pipelines and port facilities, used to get crude to and from refineries... with supply and demand already tight across North America, Katrina’s impact has been magnified.” (August 31, 2005, “Disaster Scenario for Refining”). So there are clearly real reasons for the price spikes. But if we step a little farther back and look at the bigger picture, the spikes may be seen as only a preview of more to come

Long before Katrina hit, independent scientists who study the depletion of oil and gas, were warning of an imminent peak in world oil production. One such scientist, Dr. Kenneth S. Deffeyes, professor emeritus of geology at Princeton University, suggested that the peak would come this fall. Dr. Colin Campbell, founder of the independent scientific organization, the Association of the Study of Peak Oil, believes that the peak has arrived. Many experts agree that the peak, which will only be clearly identifiable several years after it happens, will occur some time between 2000 and 2008. Others argue for a somewhat later arrival and a bumpy plateau rather than a peak, but most seem to agree that the peak of world oil production is likely to mark the beginning of radical changes in the way we live.

Oil is a very special substance. It is a very concentrated form of solar

Oil is also highly portable and extremely versatile. It is used to fuel all manner of engines from chain saws and lawn mowers to cars, trucks, heavy machinery and jumbo jets. It gets made into a vast array of everyday items such as asphalt, plastics, fabrics, clothing, elastic, velcro, inks, paints, solvents, lubricants, fertilizers, pesticides, and paraffin wax.

Canadians annually consume more than 6 tonnes of oil equivalent per person. We are highly dependent on oil (and natural gas which is also facing an imminent production peak) for our food, heat, transportation and consumer goods. Our current diet for instance, is based on large inputs of fossil fuels during farming, manufacturing, and transport. It has been estimated that at least 10 calories of fossil fuel energy are used up in the production of every calorie that we eat. Most of the food we eat travels thousands of kilometers before arriving at our dinner table.

Demand for oil has been steadily increasing in Canada for some time. Global consumption has also been steadily increasing. Demand is increasing especially quickly in several rapidly-industrializing countries such as China and India.

World oil production follows a classic bell-curve pattern with a gradual increase early on, followed by a steep increase to the peak, a steep decline and gradual tapering off at the end. At the peak the world is “awash” in oil. There is more being produced and consumed than has ever been before or ever will be again. Past the peak, production declines sharply since much of the remaining oil is

The Madawaska Highlander

Co-publisher and Editor:
Bill Graham, 613-333-1694

Co-publisher and Business Manager:
Richard Copeland, 613-333-1551

Mailing address:
The Madawaska Highlander
c/o Bill Graham
1837 Frontenac Road
RR#3 Griffith
Matawatchan, Ontario KOJ 2R0
[E-mail: grahwil@fcicanda.net](mailto:grahwil@fcicanda.net)

Advertising:
Filipa Martins, 613-333-1841
[E-mail: adamandfilipa@fcicanda.net](mailto:adamandfilipa@fcicanda.net)

Contributors and other volunteer staff:

Garry Ferguson, 613-333-1107
Mary-Joan Hale 613-752-2317
Wes Bowhower, 613-752-2429
Doug Bell 613-836-4422
Filipa Martins 613-333-1841
Ernie Jukes 613-333-2350
Tara Copeland
Lorne Ball
John Roxon
Doug Smith
Lynn Jones
Floris Wood

Design:
Adam Copeland 613-333-1841

Special thanks to Jamie for proofreading.

Continued on page 5

Big fire *continued*

his wife, Maggie and baby son, David (Davy Pat) missing. Pat walked out to the Thompson place (they lived in the old recently-dismantled house near the Birkett driveway) to tell the old people about the tragic loss of their daughter and grandson.

Mary Ann (Thompson) Strong, a granddaughter of the Thompsons, was there when Pat arrived. There are two versions of the story from this point and Gail (Snider) Holtzauer, granddaughter of Mary Ann, can't remember the one verified by her grandmother. In one version, Maggie, with the baby, walked out from Glenfield the next day. In another, she was there when Pat arrived. In either case, she and the baby had survived by submerging in a creek. Other than the clothes that they wore, only a quilt that Maggie threw down the well was saved.

The men on the Strong farm (presently Gail and Terry Holtzauer's place) worked all night wetting down the barns. Every blanket and piece of cloth in the house was soaked and used as cover over combustible surfaces. Though the buildings were saved, haystacks, a few hundred meters toward the present campground, were burned. A couple of the boys attempted to save the old sawmill situated where Aird's Lake Creek tumbled down to the Colton Creek. (the Matawatchesan Bay after 1967) When they saw that they had lost the battle and had to make an escape, they hurriedly grabbed the best plank at hand and threw it into the millpond. They had, at least, saved something of value.

The wall of flame moved on to destroy the Vealy homestead and the bush on the nearby hill, giving rise to its present name, Black Mountain. At 10 p. m. that night, the fire's glow could be seen on Burginaw's (Bourdignon's) Mountain near Round Schooner Lake. That's when the rain came. It wasn't a heavy rain but it was enough to halt the flame's progress.

In terms of the prevailing drive for settlement, the Matawatchesan area never recovered. Some people moved to friendlier environments, some to land in the West while others resituated locally leaving their rock-pile farms as pasture or to be overgrown by bush. Strong's Mill was never rebuilt.

As a youngster, I saw moss-covered logs said to be left from structures destroyed that day and folk will still point to charred stubs as evidence of the its passing, but with the exception of stone fences that snake through dense second growth forest, nature has now obliterated all traces of the Big Fire of 1903.

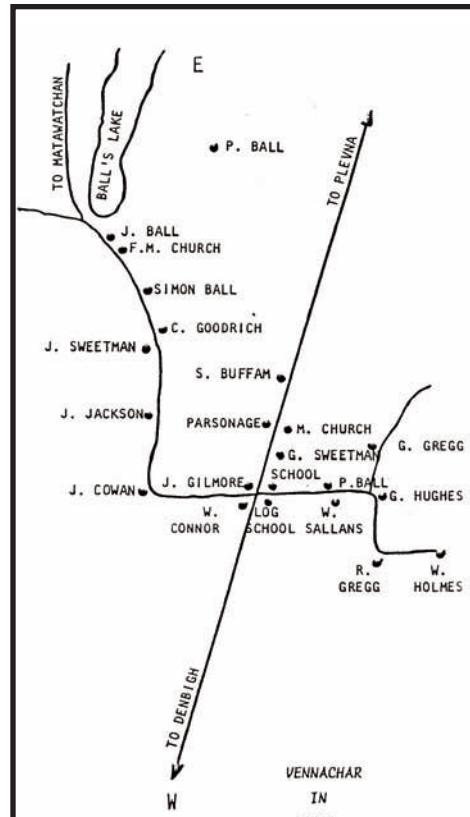
End

THE VENNACHAR FIRE

By Lorne C. Ball, 1967

The year 1903 is remembered by the Old Timers of Vennachar as the year of "THE BIG FIRE". About fifty years earlier, the first settlers followed the Addington Road and the trails of the lumber companies into the northern part of Lennox and Addington County, and settled the Vennachar Community, in what came to be the Municipality of Denbigh, Abinger & Ashby. Vennachar, presumably named after beautiful Lake Vennachar in Perthshire, Scotland, is at the summit of the watershed dividing Lake Ontario from the Madawaska Valley. As the land was cleared, houses and barns were built. These were soon followed by stores, churches, cheese factories, a log school house, and a small hotel. A couple of the farms were referred to as "Big Farms". Then came the Big Fire, which dealt such a blow to the community that it never fully recovered. It happened during a dry time in late April. A fire, fed by brush left behind after recent timbering operations, started east of Louse Creek, in that stretch of bush land between Vennachar and Lake Mazinaw. Fanned by a strong south wind, the fire came roaring into the Vennachar Settlement. In a very short time, it had swept across about four miles of the settled part of the community, leaving behind a path of black, smoking ruins. Another fire the same day burned through the Snake Creek area west of Denbigh, where Stanley Gregg was working for a timber company. A third fire for that day is reported to have broken out in the Glenfield and Rose Hill area.

The first house to be threatened was that of Wellington Holmes. Mr. Holmes was in Denbigh at the time having some wheat ground into flour at the Petzold grist mill. Mrs.



Holmes carried the children some distance from the house and waited and hoped. This was just four months before Herb was born. The fire swept past to the west of the clearing and the house was spared, but the wooden bridge at the foot of Bridge Hill did not fare so well. At the Robert Gregg residence, the stable burned but the house escaped. Mr. Gregg was in Plevna at the time getting a hundred of flour. The homes of the following settlers narrowly escaped, as the flames raced north: George Hughes, George Gregg, William Sallans, and Phillip Ball. Most of the loss was suffered at the intersection of the Denbigh-Matawatchesan road. The comparatively new school house was destroyed, while just across the road, the original log school house built in 1866, escaped. Wesley Connor's residence, which included the Post Office and a small store, was completely destroyed. The fire got a start while

Mr. Connor was helping a neighbour fight fire at his place. This combination store and post office was located just up the hill from where Mr. Connor later built a new store and dwelling. A log house near The Big Granite Boulder, a short distance west of the store, was untouched and stood for many more years. Just east of the Connor Store was the Vennachar House, a small hotel attached to the John Gilmore residence. At one time, a small store had been included here. Two Jewish men operated a store in this building for a short time. Here everything burned to the foundation and was never rebuilt.

A quarter mile east, on the Plevna Road, George Sweetman's large house and barn were burned. Nearby on the brow of the hill, the Methodist Church escaped unharmed. Across the road the house in which the minister lived and a new parsonage under construction, both went up in smoke, and were never rebuilt. The many buildings of the Sam Buffam place, a short distance to the east, escaped completely. Burning embers like flying torches were carried by the strong wind a mile or so ahead of the main fire front. These started smaller fires in many places. As the fire swept to the north, six homes with their barns and the Free Methodist Church were right in the path of the fire. These were the homes of: John Cowan, James Jackson, Justus Sweetman, Charles Goodrich, Simon Ball, and John Ball. However, none of these suffered any damage to their buildings.

No one knows what further losses the community might have suffered, if a good shower of rain had not come just when it did. When it started to rain, the fire was burning in the woods across the road from the John Ball residence at the west

Continued on page 4



THE CALABOGIE FIRE OF 1937

By Wes Bomhower,

Writer’s note: As told by Jim Campbell, with many thanks to Margaret Brohart, Keith Zavitsky and others in the village for their assistance. It was 2:00 a.m. April 1st, 1937 in Calabogie, a gusty northwest wind blowing and Jim Campbell, a lad of eight years was sound asleep as were his siblings and his parents, Neil and Jane Campbell. Running feet and a pounding on the door of their frame house on Parnell Street brought them all awake to the dreaded cry of, “Fire, fire, get your family out while you are able”.

The fire of unknown origin started in George Charboneau’s Store (formerly Mick Meran’s Store) on Carswell Street where George (Mary Charboneau’s father-in-law) was the local butcher. Fanned by the wind, the fire soon consumed this building and on to a little house next door owned by Con Scully and now occupied by a crippled barber by name of Frank McMahon. The barber managed to escape and the fire jumped across Parnell Street to the Wilson Block, destroying the three story apartment building where the village doctor of the day, probably Dr. McCormack resided. This large edifice stood where the vacant lot is beside Bernice and Tyler Devooght’s Shanty Pub.

The store next door (where the Shanty Pub now stands,) was owned and operated by Jim and Mary Belanger (Mike Killoran’s father-in-law and mother-in-law) and it was reduced to ashes. The wind suddenly shifted and Dan’s blacksmith shop was spared. Dan was Stan Mulvihill’s father.

This building still stands on the corner of Carswell and Madawaska Streets, a big white house, recently renovated with three huge boulders next to the sidewalk. Not so fortunate was the Black Donald Mines assay office and warehouse behind the Wilson Block where Felix Brennan

was clerk for many years. They packaged the high grade graphite here for shipment. This burned to the ground as did the house beside the assay office occupied by the Campbells near the old Public School. This house was owned by the Wilson Block..

Neil Campbell and his family escaped with their lives and little else, but felt quite fortunate indeed, considering the terrible wind and Calabogie’s lack of fire fighting equipment at that time. They found a place to live for a few months across Mill Street from Burney and Glenna Valiquette where there is now a vacant lot. It wasn’t much of a house but it was shelter.

Though no lives were lost, the fire destroyed seven buildings that night and some were never rebuilt, including Con Scully’s house where the barber lived, the huge Wilson Block (the Wilsons had some important connection with the Black Donald Mines), the assay office and warehouse, and the house where the Campbells lived. The property damage was astronomical for such a small village.

Two carpenters from Renfrew area, Isidore and Ken Lamour, rebuilt both Charboneau’s Store and Belanger’s Store. Later Ken would marry Jane Charboneau, Bob and Jim Charboneau’s sister. In the days following the disaster, there were reports of small pieces of burned debris found as far south as Margaret Brohart’s residence on the Lanark Road, carried by the terrific wind. And it was fortunate for Calabogie that the wind shifted somewhat in the midst of the fire or in all probability the whole of Madawaska Street would have been demolished.

Speaking of Madawaska Street, there was a fire in that location some years later, but that is another story.

End


Vennachar fire *continued*

end of Ball’s Lake. Some thought the rain was a Divine Intervention, and perhaps they were right! As the dense smoke blotted out the sun and the very Heavens seemed to be on fire, Jane Jackson, a very devout Christian, knelt in the dust of the road near her home and prayed for rain. She believed that the God who sent rain in answer to Elijah’s prayer, would send rain in answer to her’s. It is amazing that in spite of

the number of buildings burned and the speed the fire travelled, there was no loss of human life.

Even tragedies have their human interest stories and sidelights. In this, the Vennachar fire was no exception. William Lane and his son Algernon were working in the bush near Vennachar, and it seemed at one time that the fire would trap them, but they escaped. Here’s how they did it. Mr.

Look who's reading the Highlander



SUBSCRIBE TO: **THE MADAWASKA HIGHLANDER**

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____


Province/State: _____ Postal Code/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Send cheque or money order (Canadian \$20 and outside Canada \$30)

Payable to the Madawaska Highlander.

Mail to: The Madawaska Highlander,
c/o Bill Graham, 1837 Frontenac,
RR#3 Griffith ON, K0J 2R0



2271 Calabogie Rd. Burnstown

"Dancing in the Dust: Plunging into Non-Fiction"
Saturday, November 26, 10:30 to 6PM: author Linda Granfield, local columnists, Patrick Wohler and an historic tour of Burnstown with historian & author Irene Robillard.

"A Novel Weekend Workshop" with Leo Brent Robillard, author of *Leaving Wyoming* — Saturday/Sunday, December 3 & 4.

Workshops in a quaint setting along the Madawaska River at the Michigamme Writer's Retreat just outside of picturesque Burnstown, Ontario.

For information & registration:
michigamme@renc.igs.net or (613) 433-9737

Lane got on the horse’s back. Son Al grasped the horse’s tail and ran behind. They not only escaped the fire, but set something of a speed record for a man on foot, on a hot day. Fifteen-year-old Beatrice Holmes, (Mrs. Charles Ball), was helping Mrs. Simon Ball, whose son Chelous was then two weeks old. As the fire came menacingly near, Mrs. Ball bundled the infant into the carriage and sent Beatrice with him to the

John Ball home, in hopes that a measure of safety might be found near the lake. Hurrying over the rough road, the carriage upset and Chelous experienced his first traffic accident! Beatrice gathered up the baby, left the carriage behind, and ran the rest of the way with the baby in her arms.

It was indeed, a day not soon forgotten.

End

Out on the First Concession

DAD LEARNED TO DRIVE AGAIN

By Wes Bomhower

Dad had not driven a car for some years, the last one being a Model T Ford he owned when I was quite young, and cars changed a great deal in those intervening years, especially gear shifts, clutches, transmissions and the like. The Model T Fords had three foot pedals, if my memory serves me correctly, one was forward drive one for reverse and if you pushed all three pedals the car would stop. Of course one never attained any great speed at any time.

We now owned a Pontiac convertible, capable of much higher speeds, complete with clutch, gear shift and accelerator, and a brake pedal we will hear more about later. Dad let me do all the driving in the summer months and in winter the car stayed in the garage because as yet we didn't have snow removal on the Concession roads. It was Thanksgiving weekend, 1947, I was eighteen years old and it was time for me to leave the farm to seek my fortune elsewhere in the world. My older brother, Everett, was home for the

long week end and it was decided I would return to Toronto with him in hope of obtaining employment with Ontario Hydro where he worked.

This left Dad with the prospect of learning to drive again, so we took the little Pontiac out in the orchard after lunch on Sunday and went over all the fine points of modern driving before he got behind the wheel. He seemed to be absorbing everything quite well but when he tried, each time he engaged the clutch the motor would stall. I was in the passenger seat giving directions, (perhaps too many,) and finally Dad jumped out, gave both the car and I a bit of a talking to, then announced he would try it alone. I had to have the last word, so as Dad took the controls again and started the engine, I called out, "Give it lots of gas when you engage the clutch"! Famous last words.

Dad did give it plenty of gas when he engaged the clutch and the car gave a leap forward, then a series of leaps continued in and out amongst the apple trees. He was holding the accelerator to the mat and disengaging the clutch every few seconds hoping it would stop the car, then, when he engaged the clutch again the car would give another leap. I remember think-

ing at the time that it resembled an old hound chasing a rabbit, bounding this way and that through the orchard.

These antics attracted the attention of the neighbours and continued for a full two minutes but no one dared go near for fear of being run down. Dad finally had the presence of mind to turn the ignition key off

Katrina continued

phenomenon, stated in an article in the journal Science in 1949, that "the consumption of energy from fossil fuels is thus seen to be but a "pip", rising sharply from zero to a maximum, and almost as sharply declining, and thus representing but a moment in human history." He then speculated on the impact of this "pip" on industrialized human civilization. He asked if we will make a transition to renewable energy, or "retreat to an agrarian civilization at a much lower population than present."

Saudi Arabians have also apparently seen the writing on the proverbial wall as indicated by a saying they have that goes "My father rode a camel. I drive a motor car. My son flies a jet airplane. His son will ride a camel."

Many positive responses to this challenge are possible. Around the world people in small communities like ours are beginning to develop action plans for energy descent; important initiatives include re-localizing the food supply and

and pull the emergency brake on. The car came to a halt about six feet from a big apple tree, he tumbled out in relief, his ruddy complexion ashen, his legs unsteady, his voice a harsh whisper as he enquired, "How do you stop that damned thing"? I had neglected to explain where the brake pedal was located. Times indeed have changed.

End

developing rural transportation networks. There are also many innovative ways of using both fossil fuels and renewable energy; the Ottawa Valley has many pioneers in the energy field, some of whom we will be profiling in coming articles.

As we begin to face and prepare for oil depletion here in the Ottawa Valley, we can also take some comfort from the fact that there is a great tradition of helping your neighbour here and there is still a lot of traditional knowledge about getting along with less energy. Both of these bode well for how we will navigate the energy descent.


Additional references and recommended reading:

The Long Emergency by James Howard Kunstler, Atlantic Monthly Press. 2005

Power Down by Richard Heinberg, New Society Publishers, 2004

Lynn Jones is a member of the Ottawa River Institute (www.ottawariverinstitute.ca),

End




One Stop Shopping

SEARS

1-800-267-3277 www.sears.ca
Inquires Denbigh Store 333-1646 Store # 7714

Gas, Propane, Ice, Gifts, Groceries & much more

Restaurant & Pizza



Mon-Sat 8am-7pm Sun 9am-7pm

Barry & Susanne Lee 333-9333 Denbigh

New Owners

at Pine Valley

Restaurant & Variety

Lotto Machine	Groceries
Alpha & Omega	Home Baking
Crafts Sold Here	Gas & Diesel
Gift Certificates available	Home Cooked Meals

On Hwy 41 in Griffith

Mon-Fri 7am-7pm

Sat & Sun 8am-8pm

333-5523

Pine Valley

THE MADAWASKA HIGHLANDER

"Read cover to cover"

MPAC under the microscope

By Richard Copeland

André Marin, the Ombudsman for Ontario has ordered an investigation into the practices of the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC). The first area of concern is the alleged lack of transparency in the property assessment system. Property owners have complained that the process is "aloof, mysterious and cloaked in secrecy". Without access to information of the criteria used, the property owners have been left "confused and unable to question or challenge a figure, which can fluctuate considerably from year to year and which has direct impact on the property taxes they must pay", said Mr. Marin in a statement of opening remarks.

The second area of investigation is the integrity and efficiency of MPAC's valuation decision-making from one assessment year to the next. MPAC fails to recognize in future valuations, any valuation reductions obtained through the RfP process or the quasi-judicial Assessment Review Board, leaving the property owner to re-appeal, (even on the same grounds) for all future valuation years.

After four months of monitoring complaints, and a strongly worded letter from the Mayor of Ottawa, who stated to the Premier of Ontario that the MPAC system was a "mess" the Ombudsman has chosen to perform a private investigation through the Special Ombudsman Response Team (SORT).

Addressing this ill-conceived corporation in any manor is a welcomed and appropriate action taken by the Ombudsman. We property owners would hope that there could be a second phase extended to the investigation that would deal with this "common sense revolution" brainchild, in terms of the justice of its taxation philosophy and ethics as a fair and equitable scheme.

Essentially, the process requires that all citizens who hold property must participate to some degree in the volatility of the Real Estate Market. Property owners eking out a living on land held through many generations

and retirees and others on fixed incomes can no longer plan their budget on a multi-year basis. This valuation process has now raised the fear of not being able to cover the unpredictable costs of increasing taxation. The process is so volatile that you can receive additional bills in a current year even after you had paid the final bill. The upcoming wave of retiring baby boomers will have to wake up to this unusual and cruel fact of Ontario life.

The probability of having an army of individuals gather data accurately and then feed this into a computer program in anticipation of a one shot meaningful and accurate output is zero. People who use financial and market data to forecast markets seek out as many sets of output information as possible in order to mitigate error. At the end of the analysis, one can only hope that they have done their best so that the deviations on taxes that are owed, which arise over time, are held to a minimum. Given the low accuracy probability in the MPAC process, and the threat of property seizure for non payment of taxes we citizens are faced with government sanctioned extortion.

But even if the impossible could be achieved and the assessments were accurate, is this the most suitable method to gather tax revenue? For a nation of progressive taxation systems, we have understood that income or spending can best determine taxation, since there is actually money behind the determination. Taxation derived from fictitious real estate values and fickle markets is a ticking time bomb, as the Japanese economy discovered in the last decade.

I hope that our elected municipal councils and reeves will give this situation further thought and follow the lead of Ottawa's mayor, only this time go one logical step further and question the existence of the MPAC system in its entirety.

And for you property owners, this is your chance to make your voice heard with the office of the Ontario Ombudsman. If you have a complaint it can be filed at ombudsman.on.ca or emailed to sort@ombudsman.on.ca or by phone 1-866-623-SORT(7678).

End

Looking back...



A hunt camp near Glenfield

Leading the list of energy innovators in the Ottawa Valley

By Lynn Jones

With this article the Ottawa River Institute begins a series on energy innovators in the Ottawa Valley. As everyone knows, oil and gas are finite resources. The supply of both is expected to begin to decline soon and prices to rise sharply as a result. Burning of fossil fuels also contributes to climate change. Therefore it behooves us all to learn more about conservation and alternatives. Fortunately here in the Ottawa Valley there are many pioneers that are leading the way.

It may surprise some readers to learn that one of the most inspiring energy innovators in the Ottawa Valley is a large institution that is central to the lives of many Valley families. In the past couple of years, the Renfrew County District School Board (RCDSB) has made a series of breath-

taking innovations that have saved large amounts of energy and placed it on the leading edge of energy innovation, not just in the Ottawa Valley, but in the province and country as well.

Two years ago, in the fall of 2003, the RCDSB embarked upon a program called "Destination Conservation" in most of its 26 elementary schools. The DC program, which began in Alberta, involves students, teachers, custodians, parents and principals in conserving energy in their schools. Grade five teachers and students receive extensive training and then take a leadership role in their schools, conducting energy audits and behaviour change programs. DC was sponsored initially by the Ottawa River Institute through a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Continued on page 23

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my disagreement with impressions that may have been created by Michaela Murphy's article on the Burnstown Tire Processing Plant in the last edition of the Highlander. The Department of Environment has approved the plant site and the local fire department and township council have no concerns.

The creek that she mentions is no creek at all. It is low ground where water runs off into a ditch. This is not the first time that industry has been in Burnstown. In the 1960s there was a cement factory just north of Burnstown and on the same site as the present tire recycling plant there was a plant that

made cement septic tanks and another that made inter-locking bricks. These plants employed local people.

The tires being recycled at the present plant are being made into usable products instead of gathering in dumps creating land fill problems for all of us. The ground-up tires are used on our roads and as septic filter beds and weeping beds. They are also used as tile beds for farmer's fields.

Anyone who has concerns about this plant should inspect it for themselves. This plant should be given support by all of us. It is doing us all a favour.

J.P. Sullivan, Calabogie

Update on the Matawatchan Road

By Bill Graham

Township residents who use the Matawatchan Road owe a big thanks to Carol Anne Kelly and Annabell Marshall for their petition, which was mentioned in an article in the June issue of the Highlander. Many local cynics thought it was a waste of time, but they were wrong.

According to local Councillor Karin Lehnhardt, it was that petition that swayed the County to do something about the section of the Matawatchan Road that is under their jurisdiction. The ten kilometres of the Matawatchan Road between Highway 41 in Griffith and the start of the Centennial Lake Road is County Road 71.

County work in the form of surveying has already begun. The County will be using funds that they receive

from the gas tax for the actual construction costs. The money is approved, but there will be no cash until agreements are finalized and signed. It is expected that road work will begin in spring of 2006. The County is also doing similar work on parts of the Ferguson Lake Road.

The good news does not end there. The Township of Greater Madawaska will also be doing road work on the Matawatchan Road next year. They will be resurfacing the five kilometre portion of the road under their jurisdiction from the Centennial Lake Road into the Village of Matawatchan. Resurfacing work will end at the start of the Frontenac Road in downtown Matawatchan. The Township has taken out a long-term loan with a very favourable interest rate to do this work.

End

IN MEMORY OF A WONDERFUL MAN

David Joseph Roche
Born, April 4, 1924,
Toronto.
Died, September 25,
2004, Griffith, Ontario.
Age, 80.



It was 1945 when David Roche stepped onto Halifax soil as part of the first paratrooper regiment returning to Canada from Germany. Unbeknownst to him, his future wife Mary Claire was standing in the crowd with her sister WRENS waving enthusiastically to the troops as they paraded by. Later that year, this tall handsome lad would actually meet this beautiful red-headed girl who sat across from him in philosophy class at St Michael's College at the University of Toronto. Married on June 18th, 1947, Dave and Mary Claire brought nine children into the world, three girls and six boys. They enjoyed 57 years together.

Dave grew up in Toronto, the eldest of three children of Ida and Jack Roche. He attended St Michael's High School and was one year at University of Toronto before going to serve in World War II. He tried to enlist in the navy and the air force, but was refused because of his color blindness. As he did throughout his life when faced with adversity, he persisted, and ultimately joined the paratroopers. He was always reluctant to talk about the war, although we know from his hunting exploits that he was a crack shot with a rifle. There was the odd mention of gruelling training exercises, English food and the never-to-be-eaten again Brussels sprouts, but he spared us the details of life behind the lines in Germany.

After the war, Dave completed his university studies. The day after he graduated, he went to the office of E.P Taylor, business tycoon and famous breeder of racehorses, and boldly announced that he was seeking a job. Taken aback, Taylor suggested that Dave might consider studying law, an excellent education for a young man. So Dave went to Osgoode Law School. With his degree in hand, he returned to see Mr. Taylor three years later. Impressed by his determination, Taylor offered him a job with Canadian Breweries Corporation.

Dave worked his way up to Vice President and after 15 years with the company, was transferred to Montreal as President of Dow Breweries. Shortly thereafter, he joined Seagram's as Executive Vice President of Marketing. While many of the marketing people came and went, Dave stayed until retirement. He enjoyed his time at Seagram's and his frankness and honesty was appreciated. One day Sam Bronfman called him into his office where a glass of whisky sat on the desk. 'Mr. Sam' asked him to try it and give his opinion. Dave told him he didn't like it, and Sam replied, "Good, that's the competition!"

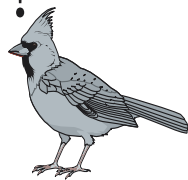
Dave retired from Seagram's at the age of 58 and built "The Wood House" on a private lake. When family and friends remember Dave, they recall not only a loving family man and successful businessman, but a person whose sense of humor and passion for life was fully revealed in the outstanding array of hobbies that he undertook over the years. Indeed, 'hobby' does not do justice to the commitment with which Dave approached gourmet cooking, woodworking, big game hunting, photography, bee keeping, sailing, fly-fishing and a contagious appreciation of fine wines.

Dad was an extraordinary man... determined, enthusiastic, deeply religious (Grand Knight of Malta), an adopted child who generously supported charities that worked with children. He did not tell his children how to live; he simply lived. Through his determination and enthusiasm for life he left us a wonderful legacy. Mary Claire, the nine children, their spouses and 16 grandchildren continue to enjoy the Wood House, the lake, the surrounding land, the peace and tranquility.

End

COME ON DOWN ! Winter season products now in stock !

- Tough Duck clothing
- Warm gloves and mitts
- Lined work boots and rubbers
- Wild bird seeds & lots of feeders
- Complete line of spa chemicals



Did you know we
 also sell
 Garden Leisure Spas ?

M & R Feeds and Farm Supply (RENFREW)



" We're more than a feed store "



400 Raglan St. S., Renfrew, Ontario, 613-432-8886

Griffith / Matawatchan News

By Garry Ferguson

On the first day of October, Sandra and Gary Peters untied their aprons and turned them over to Carol and Bert Kauffeldt. With the aprons went the Pine Valley Restaurant and Store. During the month and a bit since that time, the Kauffeldt family has been busy learning the ropes of the game and putting their personal stamp on the establishment. Bert claims that he's never had so much fun at work.

Though the "Pine Valley" has been under the new regime for weeks, the Grand Opening has yet to be scheduled. It *will* be scheduled and it *will* be a must on your social calendar. There'll be music and merriment – there's always music and merriment when Bert's around - from 2 p.m. until closing. (no guesses as to when that will be) Watch for the announcements soon after the hunt.

Matawatchan Hall

In a recent letter accompanying her generous, annual donation to the Matawatchan Hall, Sally Buesch stated that it was made in memory of her late parents, Marie and Elson Buesch, who always believed that the hall was a binding force in the community. That binding force could soon dissipate since nobody has volunteered to sit on the board. Without a board there will be no fund-raising. Without funds, the heat will be turned off and the hall closed.

A few members of the out-going board have agreed to stay on only until after the Halloween and Hunters' Dances: after that time the future of the Matawatchan Memorial Centre, or "The Hall" as it's known, is uncertain.



Fish and Game Club

A fin (\$5.00) will get you a ticket for the Buck and Doe Thing. Not to be confused with a prenuptial shindig for a betrothed couple. That's a "Jack and Jill" these days. This affair is a contest to see who can bag the biggest buck, the biggest doe and a deer of unspecified gender that tips the scales at a number closest to something called *the mystery weight*. In each case, the winner will walk away with \$100.00.

The weigh-in stations are at the Pine Valley Restaurant in Griffith and

the Eagle's Rest Store at Centennial Lake. Those who don't hunt or those (no names but we all have at least one in mind) who know that the only thing they can hope to hit is a few treetops might want to buy as many tickets as they can afford because of the many great prizes to be drawn. Among those prizes are two chain saws. They're the same brand as last year – still Stihls.

Christmas Season Lion-up
The annual Denbigh Griffith Lions Christmas Craft Sale is on the Season's schedule for 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., Saturday, December 03, 2005. The Lions Hall in Griffith will be chock-a-block with vendors' tables again as it was last Yuletide. For those of you who insist on making the rest of us feel inadequate by having all of your gifts bought – and probably wrapped – drop around anyway. There'll be a raffle, door prizes and a home-cooked lunch. If you don't win anything, you can at least have a good feed for a reasonable price.

The Christmas Bingo, with all those prizes and all that loot, is on for December 13 at 7:30 p.m. while the Children's Party, with Santa as a special guest, is a go for December 18. The fun and games will run from 1 to 3 p.m. Don't forget the Annual New Years Eve Dance in the usual place at the usual time – 9 p.m. No word yet on the date.

Fowl Play But Turkey's Goose Not Cooked

Prior to the recent Thanksgiving holiday, a Denbigh family lost its beloved gobbler, Gobbels, to a kidnapper - or rather a turkeynapper. The perpetrator of this dastardly deed then had the brass to contact the owners with a ransom demand. The gist of the message was that Gobbels would be sharing centre stage with the potatoes and cranberries on someone's festive table if a heap of grub for the local food bank wasn't coughed up, *pronto*.

The story has a happy ending however, because the larger community responded to the tragedy with such generosity that a huge amount of food was gathered. The captive was freed unharmed except for a few hints of post-traumatic stress. The most evident of these symptoms was Gobbel's garbled gobbling. He is now being considered for a career in a petting zoo.

The folks at the Denbigh Community Food Bank are elated – though they regret the fact that feathers were ruffled. They asked that *The Madawaska Highlander* convey their appreciation to all whose generosity helped to reunite Gobbels with his family and to the congregation of The New Apostolic Church for its participation.

For more information on the Food Bank, call Evelyn Inwood or Ruby Malcolm at 333 2755 and 333 1449 respectively.

End

Denbigh Checking In

By Melody Jones

The weather has been great! Sure there has been "some" rain and a few of those cold, white and fluffy things floating around! I just happen to enjoy the crisp mornings, early nights and short days, for about another month and then summer can come again!

The next season we observe will be Flu Season! A Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington Flu Clinic, will take place on November 24, 2005, at North Addington Education Centre in Cloyne from 2:00 to 6:30 p.m.

The students of Denbigh Public School have participated in UNICEF and Operation Christmas Child, created great paper mache pumpkins, and will be attending the Memorial Service at the Denbigh Cenotaph. A school trip will finish off the end of November.

Hope you had a chance to attend one of the Hunter's Suppers in your area!

Addington Highlands Public Library
- Denbigh Branch

New Hours as of October 30, 2005

Monday	4:00 - 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday	9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Thursday	4:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m.- noon

The Denbigh Branch located at 222 Hwy 28, now offers patrons free use of three new computers with high speed Internet, printing, digital camera card reader, phone renewal service and inter-library loans.

Membership - NO CHARGE for all residents of Addington Highlands.

Please call or email for more information:

Phone: 333-1426
Email: denbighl@hotmail.com



Swiss Inn
Motel & Restaurant
In the beautiful
DENBIGH HILLS OF MAZINAW COUNTY
In The Land O'Lakes Area
Situated at the junction of Hwys 28 and 41, Swiss Inn is ideally located for the four season traveler.
Swiss Inn offers an upscale country restaurant renowned for its Swiss and Canadian cuisine and fine wines, served with traditional hospitality.
INQUIRE FOR OUR RECREATION PACKAGES AND CHRISTMAS BANQUETS



OPEN ALL YEAR
Swiss Inn, Denbigh, Ontario, K0H 2R0
1-800-884-0284 or 613-333-2221
Your Hosts
Werner and Martha Lips
www.swissinn.northcom.ca
swissinn@northcom.net

GRIFFITH BUILDING SUPPLIES INC.

All Your Building Supply Materials & Hardware (PAL Dealer)

HOURS

Monday to Friday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Saturday 7:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Closed Sundays

Closed Dec 19th to Jan 2nd



- ♦ Steel Roofing
- ♦ Lumber
- ♦ Insulation
- ♦ Windows & Doors



Highway 41 Griffith, Ontario K0J 2R0

- ♦ Vinyl Siding
- ♦ Fascia Material
- ♦ Shingles
- ♦ Trusses

❖ Phone: 613-333-5596 ❖ Fax: 613-333-1121 ❖ griffithbuildingsupply@mazinaw.on.ca

J. SCOTT MacDONALD CONTRACTING

25 Years Construction Experience

Licensed carpenter and member of the ONHWP
(Ontario New Home Warranty Program)

FREE ESTIMATES

- * Residential
- * Renovations
- * Soffit & Fascia

- * Commercial
- * Septic Installation
- * General Carpentry

- * Additions
- * Roofing
- * Siding

And Lots More!
Time Slots Are Filling Up
Book Your Appointment Today!

Just Call for More Information:

Home - 333-5207

Business - 333-5596

Fax - 333-1121

jscottmacdonaldContracting@mazinaw.on.ca



Fishing with Jim

By Jim Weatherall



Now summer is gone and the leaves are changing, it is getting harder to find the fish. Remember, speckled trout closed on September 30, 2005 and will re-open on January 1, 2006, but rainbows and splake are open all year long in zone 15, with the exception of December 24th. Lake trout are open all year long in some lakes in zone 15. You will have to check in your MNR regulation book to be sure which lakes are open or closed.

The trout have been biting on worms lately, up off the bottom using a slip sinker and using a worm blower to float the worm. Let it float about 12-18 inches off the bottom. This system seems to be working well.

Randy Stafford of Renfrew was fishing on Calabogie Lake August 15th with his brother Kevin and landed a real nice northern pike, which, weighed in at 10 pounds. Good work Randy!someone had to show Kevin how to fish!!!

On September 28th I was out on Calabogie Lake with a couple from the Buffalo area, Norbert & Paula Wrobel. We were fishing in 40 to 50 feet of water...we picked up 4 pickerel at the depth of 20 – 25 feet using a slip float and live minnows. Three of the fish had to go back (13 – 18 inches long) and the fourth was 27 inches long and 5 pounds in weight. It was a real good catch and the folks said it tasted great too. They were able to eat three meals from this fish. We were observed in the catching of the big one and upon returning to Calabogie Lodge where they were staying, we had a large audience at the dock to see if it really was as big as we said. It was agreed that it wasn't just a "fish story".

Bass on Calabogie Lake and in other lakes are starting to come into the shallows more, as the temperature is dropping. This is a good time to pick up some nice fish. They are feeding heavily now to put on weight for the winter months. Bass season closes November 30th in zone 15.

Please check the regulation book for the zone in your area to be sure you are fishing legally. Each zone has its own regulatory dates. Have a great fall and be safe. See you out on the ice.
Jim

End

CABA Corner

Calabogie and Area Fall Classy Golf

By Ted Young

Yes, this year's Calabogie and Area Business Association Annual Fall Classic Golf Tournament was classy (Saturday Oct 15th). The sun nicely showed off the fall colours and the Highland's golf course. Even the fall storm circled around the course and left the golfers alone. The Halloween costumes made golf more of a challenge but made the day more spirited. The after golf food was excellent and so was that hot apple cider on the 10th hole. Thanks also to Bill Weiss for bringing the golfers special delivery coffee and sandwiches on the back nine.

The winner of the white ball tournament was a team from John Carey and Associates Co-operators Insurance in Arnprior (Carey and Glen Brown, Paul Martel and Donald). The winner of the pink ball tournament was Hobos from Calabogie (John and Marjorie Watts, Al and Marilyn Lawrie). The hobo team didn't lose their pink ball like most other teams and took home some new apparel.


Of course the day ended up very well as we watched the Senators beat Boston in the clubhouse.

The proceeds are going to Trail Development in Greater Madawaska Township and Hospice Renfrew.

Thanks to our hole sponsors; Money Concepts/ Shanty Pub/ Beyond the Bulrushes, Shooters Bar & Grill/ Jocko's Beach Resort/ Co-operators Insurance Arnprior/ Studio by Lake/ Carolyn Jakes/ Country Spa/ Blind Spot/ Madawaska River Market/ George Jackson Toyota/ Mack Mackenzie Motors/ Bittersweet Art Gallery/ Florella's Antiques/ Boutik J& H/ Somethin Special Gift, Aucoin Electric, Briscoe's Food-market and Calabogie Motorsports.

Thanks also to the many prize donators from Calabogie, Renfrew, Arnprior and Ottawa. And finally to the Greater Madawaska Township team who participated in the golf days activities.

End





FISHING AND HUNTING LICENCES

GUIDING SERVICES

FULL LINE OF TACKLE

LEECHES & CRAYFISH

MINNOWS & WORMS




Full line of ice fishing needs
Ice hut rentals on Calabogie Lake

RV & AUTOMOTIVE BATTERIES

COFFEE & SNACKS

CONFECTIONS & SUNDRIES

12600 LANARK RD
CALABOGIE, ONT
(613) 752-2145



Meetings NOVEMBER 2005

Public Works	Nov 2 /05	Council Chambers	4:00 PM
Finance & Administration	Nov 3 /05	Council Chambers	12 NOON
Public Services	Nov 3 /05	Council Chambers	2:00 PM
Planning & Economic Development	Nov 3 /05	Council Chambers	4:00 PM
Committee of the Whole	Nov 10 /05	Council Chambers	5:00 PM
Council Meeting	Nov 17/05	Council Chambers 4984 Calabogie Road Calabogie	7:00 PM

DECEMBER 2005

Public Works	Dec 7/05	Council Chambers	4:00 PM
Finance & Administration	Dec 8/05	Council Chambers	12 Noon
Public Services Committee	Dec 8/05	Council Chambers	2:00 PM
Planning & Economic Development	Dec 8/05	Council Chambers	4:00 PM
Council Meeting	Dec 15/05	Council Chambers 4984 Calabogie Road Calabogie	** 5:00 PM **

There will not be a Committee of the Whole meeting in December

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

CHURCH SERVICE SCHEDULE

GRIFFITH AND MATAWATCHAN

St. Andrew's United Church
Sunday Worship 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School 8:30 a.m.
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 at 9:00 a.m.

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

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Calabogie

Christmas craft and bake sale at Calabogie Community Hall on Saturday November 19/2005 from 10-4 pm

Fund raising Concert for Calabogie Home Support – Sunday November 20, 2005 at the Buckhorn Restaurant from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
No Admission Charge – Donation Box at the Door

The third annual Calabogie Santa Claus Parade, Sunday - Dec. 4, 2005.
At 1:00 p.m. floats and participants will

gather behind the Catholic School in Calabogie on Mill Street. Santa gives out candy to children at Community Hall 574 Mill Street after parade.

Family New Years Eve Party (no alcohol)sledding / potluck dinner / hockey / cards /board game / movies / sleigh rides.
Please call for details Chantal at the township office 613-752-2222. You must reserve in advance \$5.00 per person or \$25.00 for family.
December 31/05 5pm-1am at Calabogie Community Hall

Calabogie Crafts: Every second Monday of the month at the Community Centre (call Marjorie Watts at 752-2598)

Calabogie Seniors: Pot luck dinner and meeting – the last Thursday of each month – Community Hall begins at 4:00 p.m. followed by dinner and meeting.

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

Griffith & Matawatchan

The Annual Denbigh-Griffith Lions Christmas Craft Sale - 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., Saturday, December 03, 2005. The Lions Hall in Griffith

Christmas Tree Lighting
Saturday December 10, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. in Matawatchan.

Darts and Euchre: Begins in January. Organizers for each activity are needed. Contact Doug Vassey at 333-1578.

New Years Eve Dance: Matawatchan Hall December 31. Watch for posters.

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 Carol Anne Kelly at 333-5570 or Lois Robbins at 333-1082 if you wish to attend and be added to our mailing list. These meals are held in our community for those who live alone, seniors and retired people who enjoy a meal together. 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.

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

Contact Bill Graham 333-1694 or Richard Copeland 333-1551 to have community and church announcements placed in future issues of the paper. Please note that we don't always have the most current information for church services.

NOTICE

The Township of Greater Madawaska Requires

RINK MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL

1. Calabogie Community Rink
2. Griffith-Matawatchan Community Rink

The above are seasonal positions.
Outline of services required are available at the Municipal Office, 1101 Francis Street, Calabogie.

Please provide a written proposal
by the extension date of
12 noon, Friday, November 25th, 2005 to:
Township of Greater Madawaska
Attn: Rink Caretaker
P.O. Box 180
Calabogie ON K0J 1H0



**In Home Set-up
Pick-up & Delivery
We repair, or custom build computers**

**11 YEARS EXPERIENCE
We guarantee our work
Good Rates**

Doug Vasey
Matawatchan, Ontario

(613) 333-1578

Wild turkeys

By Floris Wood

Mother Nature sometimes has an ironic sense of humour. In order to attract females some male birds have evolved very elaborate feather colours and shapes. Occasionally the decorative function of feathers overrides the flying function of feathers and the birds are no longer able to fly. Some of these birds have become extinct because flying was their best defence against predators and, lacking the flying advantage, the predators won.

Such was not the case for wild turkeys. Wild turkeys can still fly and very fast (turkeys have been clocked at (88 Km/H), but not far. It takes a lot of energy to get that much weight into the air. It can also run fast, 25 miles an hour, but, again, not far. So running and flying away is the turkey's chief defence against predators, and turkeys have a lot of predators. Some of these predators are raccoons, opossums, skunks, grey foxes, birds, woodchucks, rodents, bobcats, snakes, coyotes, mountain lions, great horned owls, eagles and humans. With so many lovers of turkey meat or eggs in the world the turkey's life span suffers. Although a protected turkey can live up to 13 years the average wild turkey lives about 1.3 to 1.8 years. While the domestic turkey lives to be fattened and butchered, the wild turkey lives to be hunted and butchered. Their meat was so prized in the early years of the North American Continent that they were one of the principle food sources for the developing nations.

Turkeys, themselves, are omnivores, but the meat diet, consisting mostly of bugs and an occasional amphibian, constitutes only about 10% of the wild turkey total diet. For the most part turkeys stick to leaves; roots and tubers; seeds, grains, and nuts and fruit. Most eating takes place 2 to 3 hours after dawn and just before the sun sets, though browsing takes place throughout the day. Most food is found on the ground but turkeys take to the trees for some fruit or buds.

How can one know if that big bird beside the road is a wild turkey? Mainly by its size because they are one of the biggest birds in North America. They can reach four feet in height and four feet from head to tail. Second, it is one of the few bald headed birds in North America (It makes you wonder why the well coiffed bald eagle got that name.) Further, since they are very social animals, there will probably be a flock (called a raft of turkeys) of them. Another unique characteristic of the male is a caruncle above and at the base of his beak. A caruncle is a red, fleshy growth



that hangs down one or the other sides of the beak. A male turkey will sport a red wattle below its chin or throat and a tuft of black feathers on its chest. Adult male turkeys have heads that are white, blue or red, depending on the season. Their long legs may be pink, pinkish-grey or silver grey. Females (called hens) by comparison are rather dull creatures. They are very attentive and protective mothers while the gobbler is no help at all in poult (baby turkey) care.

In northern climes the tom will literally begin to strut his stuff around March and April. The tom transforms his body by fanning out his tail feath-

from 4 to 17 eggs which she will brood for an average of 28 days. The female poults will remain under the protection of the mother until early the next spring while the jakes will leave the mother in the first fall.

Turkeys are wary, wiley birds that try very hard to stay in the background of human life. Even in areas where they are plentiful, a long time may pass before a human resident will spot a wild turkey. Their keen sight and hearing are a great early warning system that enables them to detect your presence before you can detect theirs. They are sometimes tempted to frequent rural back roads which



Two turkeys in a vine entangled cedar hedge 10 feet off the ground in Matawatchan.

ers, dragging his lowered wings on the ground, bringing his back feathers to an erect position, throwing back his head and inflating his crop. This display is attended by the sensuous vocal called "gobbling" which can be heard by humans at a 1.6 km distance. In this display mode he struts amongst hens and urges them to join his harem. If necessary he fends off rival toms by pecking and with a pair of long spurs on his legs. While fighting the two toms emit a purring sound, one of 15 known distinct vocalizations. Young toms (called jakes) can begin breeding at 10 months old but generally have little luck competing against the larger, older males.

After the breeding season the genders separate and the female concentrates on nest building, hatching and rearing the poults. She will lay

have an abundance of small gravel stones, which the turkeys swallow to help their crops grind food, or grain spilled from farm trucks or wagons. They usually move about slowly in clearings or fields and generally not too far from a wooded area into which they will take flight should something alarm them. Turkeys that have lived for a long time in more populated areas can get acclimated to humans and will stay near a road even as cars drive by. In such areas they can become a hazard to drivers. Even in the Matawatchan area, turkeys can be seen browsing in back yards. Kay Kelly and Hazel Warren of Matawatchan have been feeding a group of three for most of the autumn.

Turkeys almost became the U.S.A. national bird but it lost out to the Bald Eagle. They were very plentiful

in North America when the pilgrims stepped off the boats at Plymouth Rock. Hence the first Thanksgiving feast featured turkey meat, and has ever since. Indians too found turkey meat to their liking and the feathers were used in decoration. Turkeys were not revered by all aboriginal peoples as they might have revered other animals. Many considered the turkey a stupid, cowardly animal.

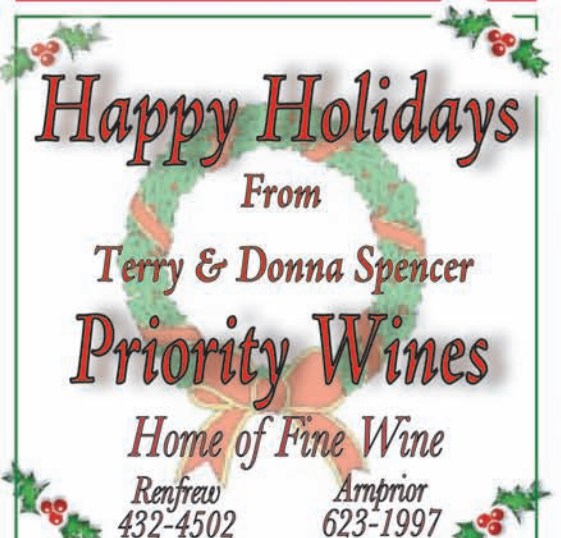
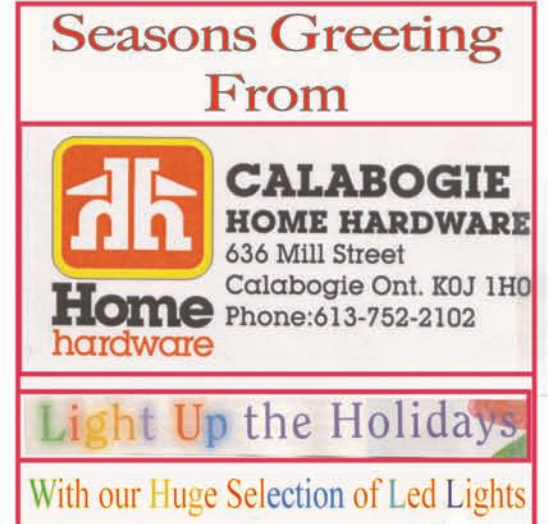
Canadians and Americans now usually eat a tame version of turkey that is very different from wild turkey. Different only because farmers bred them for food, and domestic versions now sometimes weigh in at over 50 pounds (22 Kg.) while the wild counterparts weigh in at from eight to 25 pounds (4 to 11 Kg). Domestic turkeys live in the service of feeding mankind and can no longer breed on their own. They are artificially inseminated. The hens are egg-laying machines and the toms (or gobblers) are walking meat racks. Turkey meat ranks a distant fourth in type of meat consumed in Canada, behind beef (32.0 kg/person); chicken, (30.5 kg/person); pork (25.2 kg/person); turkey, 4.2 (kg/person).

What's up with the name "turkey"? It is a long story but, briefly, in 1494 the Portuguese exported the turkey, a native of the New World, to Goa, a Portuguese colony in India. British India called it a "Guinea Fowl" because it resembled a familiar bird from the Guinea area of Africa. As consummate traders the Portuguese spread the popular turkey all over the known world. But a breeding stock from Egypt was particularly popular with the Spanish and English. The Ottoman Turks ruled Egypt, at that time, so the British and Spanish called the fowl a "Turkey". Its popularity in England made it a household word. So by the time the pilgrims landed in 1620 they found an animal whose taste and name were already familiar.

Plentiful as wild turkeys were when the pilgrims landed, they were hunted so heavily that by the end of the 1800s their survival was in doubt. Beginning around 1900 conservation efforts began by replenishing the wild stock with tame stock. But, as is often the case with tame animals, the tame turkeys starved to death in the wild, while waiting around to be fed. Furthermore, there was a problem with what wildlife managers call imprinting, that is, the tame birds did not want anything to do with their wild counterparts. In 1943 only 19 of the original 39 states in the U. S. that supported wild turkey populations still had any wild turkeys at all, but that was enough to rebuild the American stock of wild turkeys. With restocking efforts and

continued on page 15

Holiday Greetings



Greater Madawaska Councillor Karin Lehnhardt and Addington Highlands Deputy Reeve Lorraine Berger at Denbigh cemetery on Remembrance Day.



Betty Brannen looks down on the recently brushed-out scenic lookout at the Madawaska River near Burnstown. The Burnstown Women's Institute in conjunction with the County of Renfrew were instrumental in improving the view from the lookout in August this year.



This huge Channel Catfish was caught by Len MacDonald at Snider's Campgrounds this summer. It was 32 inches in length and weighed in at 22 pounds.

Cottage Corner

By John Roxon

Editor's note: *John is an owner of the Leaside Gallery and travels from Toronto to his Aird's Lake cottage on average 120-days each year. As you will read he is addicted to his cottage and its location. He will be writing a regular (year-round) column on cottage life in the Madawaska Highlands.*

My name is John and I'm addicted to the cottage.

Actually this addiction started in a benign enough way as most addictions do. My wife and I were invited up to the cottage in the Matawatchan area by a friend who owned it at the time. It was a short visit in the middle of winter—when the snow was three-feet deep—and when the sky was a Caribbean blue with the temperature very much like my bank account (in the deep negative numbers). It was really all it took to get me hooked on a five plus year addiction.

Looking back now I must have been crazy to fall in love with such an aloof place. Close to one kilometer to walk-in only to be greeted by dead mice, the sound of scampering live

mice and an interior temperature that would freeze a Toronto car battery.

I didn't think about owning the cottage then. In fact, about the only thing my wife and I thought of, on that snow-filled winter's day, was survival. Despite this brutal high, I was hooked.

We returned for another visit in April of the following year on my son's birthday. The snow wasn't quite so deep, since the three-feet of snow from the winter was now replaced by an equal volume of mud and water.

During that chilly weekend when the skies were bleak and the dampness turned my bones to ice, I asked my friend if he wanted to sell. You see, with two visits I was hooked on what must be the most addictive entity known to man – empowerment.

"No way" my friend said – I would never sell this place. Within a year he sold. The circumstances surrounding the sale will be familiar to many owners of cottages and second homes—the inability of the children to share the beauty. So my friend and I met at the cottage in April of 2000, shook hands across the kitchen table, had a drink and the deal was done. Now I would have an endless supply of the gorgeous vistas of the Madawaska Highlands

– and, of course, that "man as a master of his domain fix" on a regular basis – just what an addict needs.

Naturally, the addiction escalated from there. At first it was innocuous enough. In the beginning I had to make frequent trips to the cottage to do all of the work that a new cottage owner must do. Like fishing, going for walks through the woods, trail riding on the ATV, stargazing—like relaxing. Oh, I did tidy up the workshop and I'm sure I swept the floor at least once. The addiction was taking a stronger hold on me. On more than one occasion I made the seven-hour return trip in one day so I could... well, so I could feed my habit. Of course I told my wife, Julie (who, I should add here, has the unmitigated patience of a saint) that I had to go to clear out the mousetraps, or chop wood and check the pipes. The excuses were getting much better as I found new and more ingenious ways of getting the OK for the cottage. As if this wasn't bad enough, I was starting to get friends involved as well. "Really, dear, Andrew is going through a tough patch and I think a visit to the cottage will do wonders for him."

Everyone knows that fresh air is good if you have a touch of a cold or the flu. I probably get the flu more

often than anyone. I had the flu for approximately 163 days in 2001 and had another nasty bout that lasted 146 days in 2002. Under those conditions I'm sure you can all understand why I needed the fresh air to clear my viral-infested lungs. The cottage also does wonders for me.

It's been five years now. My wife is starting to look at me in funny ways. I can't quite put my finger on it, but I think that she may be contemplating my demise—natural or otherwise; I'm not always sure. She doesn't seem overly concerned about my constant flu-like symptoms; she hasn't taken me to the doctor or a specialist of any kind. Nor does she offer to drive me to the cottage when I'm in a weakened state from not getting my fix, from another nasty round of flu I mean. Another worrisome sign is the skeet-shooting course that Julie recently enrolled in. Skeet, thy name is John.

That's something I'll have to ponder further – probably on a future cottage visit between splitting wood and enjoying that crisp, clean air. For now, though, I'll just drag myself to the car, coughing and sneezing, point the car on a northeasterly heading and battle the traffic for as long as it takes – because my name is John and I'm an addict—cottage addict.

End

COTTAGE WATCH!



Did you forget to turn something off?

Monitoring of heat system

Weekly perimeter checks

Prices vary, depending on service

Do you live hours from your cottage?
Are you away from your place of retreat for weeks or months at a time?

CALL FOR MORE DETAILS
CORY OR JULIE VINCENT

Monday-Saturday
613-333-1164
PROTECTIVE SECURITY GRADUATE

We are long time residents of Griffith and the Centennial Lake area

Turn heat up on the day of your arrival so you arrive to a comfortable cottage

Sudoku

By Doug Bell

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Each number can only appear once in a row, column or box. Degrees of difficulty include easy, medium, hard and difficult.

Level: Easy

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

answers on page 23

SUDOKU the latest puzzle phenomenon

Sudoku are simple-looking number puzzles that require no math, spelling or language skills. The puzzles are pure and simple logic. Unlike crosswords, they don't require an extensive knowledge of trivia skills.

These puzzles are also addictive! With nothing more than non repeating numbers from 1-9 in rows, columns and 3x3 boxes they are tempting to the inquisitive logical mind.

The phenomenon originated in 1970's as "Number Place" in the States. Japan introduced the puzzle in 1984 with an abbreviated name "single number" – (Su = number, digit; Doku = single, unmarried). Sudoku became the largest selling puzzle in Japan. Strangely the popularity of this puzzle did not reach Europe and North America until the Spring of 2005.

Solving SUDOKU

Sudoku basic rules are that only one number (1 – 9) may appear once in each row (horizontal), column (vertical) or box. It follows that for our example that a 7 appears in our top row and right hand top box and also in the second row, middle top box. This leaves open the left hand box third row for insertion. There is only one space open for the third 7 (the other two include a 2 and 9). The spaces indicated by the double ended arrow cannot be filled be-

cause these two boxes include 7's. When we have eliminated other number combination possibilities we proceed systematically down the puzzle to find other number possibilities in each 3 box horizontal combination.

Next a vertical examination is done systematically using the same process as we did to solve the horizontal 7's. For explanation purposes we will look at the three verticle boxes in the centre indicated by the vertical arrow. You will notice that along with other duplicates two 6's are present here. Using the same horizontal line method of elimination of cells we can place a 6 in the centre column, row three. The reason that it cannot be placed in the same col-

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

umn top row is that this row already contains a 6.

There are various names given to this process of solving, one is "cross-hatching". When you get the gist of identifying duplicate numbers in box combinations this method will place numbers quickly. Of course the more numbers that are placed in each cell will reduce the allowable numbers to be placed.

Summary:

Look for horizontal three box number duplicates. Try to fit that number in the last open space in the unused row with help from blocked column (same number) above or below that box. Repeat, vertically looking for column duplicates with a blocked row from boxes on either side.

In the next issue we will discuss another technique called "number sweeping". This method allows us to solve Sudoku puzzles that are slightly more complex.

Good luck and have fun!

Should you want more Sudoku puzzles ... please email me at ovcrosswords@gmail.com.

WILD TURKEY *continued*

proper hunting regulations, 42 states now have a large enough population to permit wild turkey hunting.

Ontario too had not received a sighting of a wild turkey since the early 1900s. Hence, in 1984 a restoration effort was initiated. Today the wild turkey population in Ontario is estimated to be around 80,000 birds and growing. A recent article in the Renfrew County Hunt Camp News gives valuable population data and hunting information about wild turkeys in Renfrew County. According to the article 300 wild turkeys were released in Renfrew County between 1997 and 2003 and Ontario "has released more than 4,350 wild turkeys in the province at more than 270 sites". As a consequence licensed wild turkey hunting was permitted in areas south and southwest of Pembroke in 2005. In Wildlife Management Unit 59, between Pembroke and Renfrew, where wild turkey hunting has been permitted since 2001, the harvest has increased each year, starting with four in 2001 to 106 in 2005.

The wild turkeys found in Eastern Ontario and the eastern half of the U. S. down to Georgia, are called eastern or forest turkeys (*Meleagris gallopavo silvestris*), and Ontario is the northern border of its range. It is believed that the Madawaska Valley is not within the natural range of the pre-1900 population of wild turkeys. However, that may only be because they were eradicated before they could spread this far north. They seem not to suffer too badly because of the severe winters in this area. Wintering usually takes place in conifer trees where the turkeys can hide in the drooping, snow-insulated, branches. Turkeys are greatly aided by seeded food plots. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources offers information on how landowners can improve the wild turkeys' winter survival chances.

Wild turkeys are harmless to humans or other beneficial wildlife and are an economic positive, bringing in millions of dollars a year in hunting revenues. They are a delight to hunt either with bows, guns or cameras.



Home
hardware

Calabogie Home Hardware

636 Mill St.

Calabogie, Ont K0J 2R0

Phone 613-752-2102

Winter Hours:

Open: Mon-Thurs 8:00-5:30

Friday 8:00-6:00 Saturday 8:00-5:00

Sunday Closed



Light Up the Holidays
With our huge selection of LED lights

City Girl

By Filipa Martins

Of Country Critters and Burry Goats

For me, one of the treats of country living is the ability to enjoy different animals, both the domesticated and wild types. This summer, I got very close to some common country critters. So close that they actually shared the bedroom me.

My attic was taken over by bats. They were happy bats, had lots of babies right above my bedroom, and were not at all quiet about it. Every night at about nine o'clock the bats would make an unbelievable racket as they got ready to go out for the night's hunt. It wasn't just at nine, they would return around four in the morning to feed their babies. Needless to say, the bats won. After a few night of this and some strange smell developing, I shut down my bedroom only to return to it recently. Luckily the rest of the rooms upstairs were relatively noise free. I am happy to report the bats are gone—for now.

I wanted to get some animals as soon as I moved into my country place (not bats-of course). At first I shopped around for a cow or sheep for meat animals. But the reality of having to kill animals that I raised set in and I decided to go a different route.

I bought two angora goats – a mom and her kid. Their fibre can be spun into beautiful mohair. The kid's fleece was gorgeous, soft snow white. We drove them back to my place inside a large dog crate in the back of a van. We parked, opened the doors and carefully let them out (they have big horns) trying to be reassuring and gentle because they were very uneasy



about this new place. Just as the baby is out of the van and the mom is taking her first step out (which took a lot of pulling) this low-pitched screech followed by a loud hiss startled all of us. Then out of nowhere my black cat comes out on three paws, her fourth swinging wildly at the goats. She was protecting her baby kittens from what she thought was a strange predator.

Complete chaos set in. The mother goat is in panic mode, running in circles at the end of her leash spinning my husband into the ground. There are four people present but we were completely frozen. The cat kept hissing and attacking, the mother goat is circling and bleating, pulling with all her head's strength to get back in the van. In her frightened

state, her bowels let go. My dog, a high-strung border-collie type, immediately contributed to this circus-like atmosphere, barking incessantly while trying to herd everyone back around the van. All the while our llama, Bart, paced the fence watching and humming nervously.

My cat was captured in what seemed to be the longest minute ever. The dog

eventually settled down a bit and the mother goat (Macy) started to calm down. This whole time I had the baby goat by a leash. I led him into the yard and the mother goat followed us immediately. Through the gate they went and just when I thought all was clear, the llama makes an aggressive approach to get a good sniff of his new barn mates. The mother goat and her baby dashed as fast as they could to the end of the yard where the fence had the biggest gaps. I have no idea how they instantly knew where the weakest part of the fence was, they must be psychic! The mother goat hit the fence at full speed and promptly got her horns caught up in the wire. The llama, meanwhile, startled by their reaction ran gracefully in the opposite direction. They run like a deer, and can also jump like a deer, over the fence he went.

Chaos set in again. I ran as fast as I could to keep the baby goat from slipping through the fence. I can hear yelling "Get the llama, get the llama!" "Where's the cat?" "Can someone call the dog? She's trying to herd the goat!" I got hold of the baby goat and held him tight in my arms. The mother stood by to ensure his safety. In a few minutes the llama returns. Have you ever tried to catch a llama or catch a deer for that matter? They can outrun and outwit

Continued on page 20

City girl in the country: Another country

By Tara Copeland

Editor's note: *Tara Copeland is sister-in-law to our own City Girl, Filipa Martins and daughter of co-publisher Richard Copeland. Newly married, she now lives in Australia. She gets copies of the Highlander sent to her by mail and was recently struck by the similar situations faced by both her and Filipa in coping with country life. She has offered us some observations as a city girl, in another country.*

One minute you're sitting in an office developing a plan to get unwitting customers to do something silly like sign up for another credit card, buy a new car they don't need or collect points so they can fly from Toronto to Ottawa maybe sometime this century. With the pulse of the city at your fingertips you can have lunch or just about anything else delivered in 30 minutes for free, hop on the subway and be across town before you know it, and choose from hundreds of options for nightly entertainment and dining delights.

The next minute you find yourself in the middle of the ocean, cold rain splattering your face, hoping to heavens you reach your next anchorage point before nightfall; hoping that

your borrowed GPS is as accurate as it needs to be to get you safely through Wide Bay Bar; that you've read the navigation chart correctly, even though you just taught yourself how to do it yesterday, and that the tide will still be high enough so you can get over it when you finally get there.

Just how does a city girl find herself living on a 35' sailboat, somewhere off the East Coast of Australia?

I live 'up the creek' in 'Town of 1770', and yes, sometimes without a paddle. The proper name is actually Round Hill Creek (named for the hill that looks round at the end of the creek), which is located off the headland of 1770 (named for the year it was discovered by Captain James Cook). This 'town' wasn't much of one until about 6 years ago when they finally built a proper road into the place. Now home to holiday condominium developments and multi-million dollar beach houses, the neighbourhood is changing a bit. Still, hanging our hats in an estuary bordering on national parkland, our immediate surrounding terrain is rugged and hilly, dramatic cliffs tumbling into rough ocean surf, the land and sea full of wildlife.

It all began one day early this year

when my husband, home from an exhausting day of work in the sun, his 'sock-savers' still full of sawdust and blue eyes full of the sparkle of dreams and promise, asked me what I thought about living on a boat. He confessed he had always had this crazy dream to sail up the coast of Australia, cruise the northern islands where it's warm in the winter, and then sail south back home in the spring. Since I couldn't possibly say 'no' to someone's dream (and in theory this whole boat-thing sounded kind of cool), I said 'sure honey, ok'. Dream became reality through research on the internet, seeking the opinions of 'boaty' friends and driving up and down the coast until I thought I had seen every marina from Brisbane to Townsville. Three frustrating months and many litres of gas later, we finally settled on a 35' Roberts ketch that had been one of the first ones we had looked at – of course!

To give you an idea of the kind of speed our vessel can attain, our maiden voyage from Brisbane to 1770 took us nearly three weeks to complete, during which we covered 500 nautical miles. At an average speed of 5 knots, that meant we could safely cover 50 nautical miles per 10-hour sailing day. Moving so slowly, all I can say is thank good-

ness for autopilot, sundecks and a good novel. To be on the safe side, we took our time and stayed at a marina or on anchorage for a few days if the weather looked daunting, only venturing further if the conditions were suitable for a scaredy-cat novice sailor like me. Though I'm slowly becoming more confident with every practice sail we do, and have even attained my boating license. I've learned once again, that if something new slightly frightens you, its quite often a good idea and will be a lot of fun if you just 'give it a go'.

Since arriving home, life on the water is not without its challenges, some of which are uncannily similar to those experienced by my landlocked 'rellies' in Matawatchan.

Living on anchor means we are pretty much stranded from any outside sources of utilities. Like father like daughter, we get our power from the sun and the wind. The boat came with two 80 watt solar panels – albeit about 20 years old, and two wind generators – only one of which works. The batteries themselves are most likely 'rooted' (we haven't the wherewithal nor the money for that matter to purchase our way out of the problem),

continued on page 22



KELLY HOMES
NEW HOMES • RE
Quality Work
(613)-433-1035

Have a Safe and Happy Holidays

Specializing In: **Quality custom built homes**

Decking Roofing Siding **Kelly Homes Inc.**
Fascia Garages Soffit **613-433-1035**
Windows/Doors
Log Homes Jody Kelly
Licensed Carpenter

**New Homes
and
Renovations**

**C.L. Polk Forestry
Consulting Ltd**

Specializing in:

Forest Management
Aesthetic Logging
Property Line Location

**Complete Property
Appraisals**

For all your forest evaluations and
appraisals of vacant land,
farms, residential and
vacation properties.

Contact: Larry Polk, BSCF, RPE, CRA
Ph (613) 432-8681
Fax (613) 432-1660

**Snider's
Tent and Trailer Park**

271 Airds Lake Road
Matawatchan

Gas Propane Swap
Ice
Groceries Oil
Gift ware and much, much more !!

Store Hours
Monday - Thursday
phone before you come
Friday and Saturday 8am to 6pm
Sunday 8am-2pm
Terry and Gail Holtzhauer
613-333-5551

Floyd Enterprises

Hwy 41, Griffith phone or fax
(613) 333-2753



- * Utility and Custom made Trailers
- * Ice Hut stoves
- * Steel Fabricating
- * Small Engine Repair
- * Welding
- * Automotive Maintenance

Visa and Interac
accepted

Wishing you and your loved ones a safe
Merry Christmas
&
A Happy New Year

ERNIE'S MUSINGS #3

By Ernie Jukes

I plagiarized a small bit o'this while in Mexico last winter because my amigo Dryden Jones, a retired architect from the States, and fellow tai-chi enthusiast prompted me with his "Confessions of a Couch Potato". We both write for the local paper "*El Ojo del Lago*"—The Eye of the Lake, in Lake Chapala, that is. It's a "what's happenin'" magazine in this delightful retiree's community, reckoned to have the world's finest climate. The area attracts all kinds of old crocks, including those that write and paint and perform in the local theatre—some play bridge and talk and think. Many are involved with worthwhile pursuits like improving education and water.

And of course there are a lotta wannabees and every type is there from Generals to Professors, Pros at everything even CIA spies—you name it—all famous of course. There are women with constant smiles from face-lifts and many fat men looking silly in shorts and bald men with strange Trump-like hairpieces. Down there, folks go to doctors for virtually every malady known to man. Some are hardly able to get in or out of their cars much less hike to the shrine on the mountain. But most

are trying like hell to stay young and feel important, at least in their own minds! They probably don't even look forward to their next birthday. Well "fly low-fly slow" Jonesy, (he was also a pilot) may not be a Hemingway, and neither is this old scribbler—but I found parts of his short article funny enough to crib, with his permission—which is supposed to be a most singular compliment amongst the writing fraternity. Anyhoo I want to lay it on you in hopes that y'all will have the same reaction that I had. Of course folks may be inclined to read a bit more when they are resting in warm climes at that time of year, it being January—or through the rest of our cold and snow. And since there are less dancers and golfers in the group each year it suggests that any idea of body movement—particularly if it resembles exercise—may not be for the bulk of society on Lakeside. And probably not for old folks along the Madawaska either. You will know if you sit in a rocking chair and can't make it go! One valid point of view that Jonesy and Jukesy have in common is that a propensity for jocularly is definitely one of the secrets to a possible longer and probably happier life. In other words lighten up you just ain't as important as you think.

Memories of Ward Allen

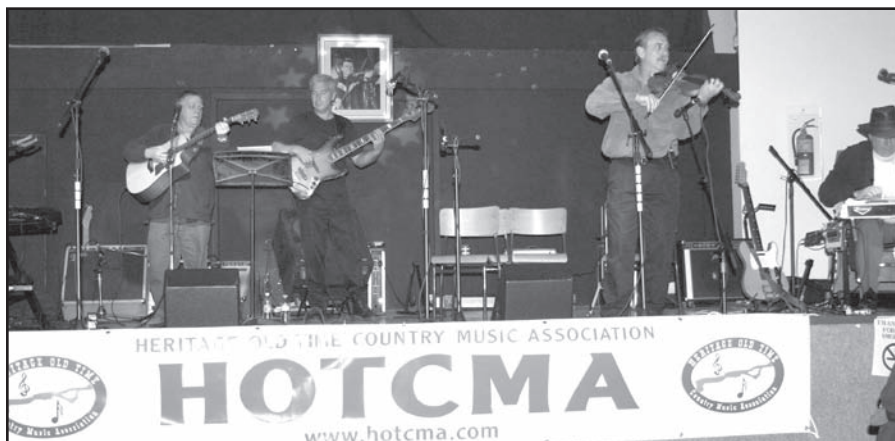
By Garry Ferguson

On Saturday, October 22, 2005, nine hundred people came to the RCAFA Wing in Renfrew, from as far away as Stoney Creek, Ontario and Hull, Quebec, to join the Heritage Old Time Country Music Association (HOTCMA) in a salute to Ward Allen.

Ann Allen, wife of the late Ward, and a large contingent of family members were there to add impact to the display of photos and memorabilia from the life of one of Canada's greatest fiddlers.

The first half of the program, hosted by HOTCMA President Stan Callaghan, featured performances by members of the Allen family and the introduction of guests Renfrew Mayor Sandi Heins, M.P.P. John Yakabuski and Ken Reynolds, manager of the CFRA Happy Wanderers.

Callers Art Jameison and Ken Reynolds guided dancers through the squares to the music of the Ward Allen Tribute Band. This collection of talented Valley musicians consisting of Carol Dawson-Kennedy, Al Utronki, Dean Lavoy and Tim Hermitte were assembled, under the direction of Master Canadian Fiddler Brian Hebert, for the event.



Evidently, it is well documented that for every minute that you exercise, you add one whole minute to your life. This will in fact enable you at 85 years of age to spend an additional 5 months in a nursing home at \$5000 per month. It doesn't matter where it is cause you won't know where you are and you certainly won't be exercising.

Of course our genes are important to our longevity, and it's true that we shouldn't abuse ourselves. Now they tell us! My Grandmother, on my father's side believed in exercise. She started walking when she was 70 and when she was in her nineties no one knew where the hell she was! Haven't seen her since!

Luckily studies show red wine and scotch are good for our cholesterol. But be careful reading Health Books you may die of a misprint. Jonesy says Irish coffee provides all four essential food groups: alcohol, caffeine, sugar and fat. Of course one of the reasons many men would take up exercising is so that they could hear heavy breathing again. Jonesy joined a health club in Ajijic, and spent about \$40 bucks. He didn't lose a pound or gain any energy. Apparently you have to show up. Down there you are burning the midnight oil after 9:00 p.m. so he may have slept-in. Personally I have to exercise early in the morning before my brain figures out what I'm up to. I do like long

walks up my mountain, especially when people who annoy me take them. Older folks do what they can, depending on the condition of their body after 70 years or so on this planet. The advantage of exercising every day is that you die much healthier. And of course Canadians have many advantages, especially here in the Madawaska Highlands, like clean air, clean water—that's probably why they outlive most of the rest of the world. But if you are going to try cross-country skiing I would suggest you start with a much smaller country. Did you ever notice that when we go into a bar anymore they of course never check our age for our ID—now it's for our pulse? Some friends say that dialling long distance wears them out, and another got winded playing chess. And a guy in Toronto who just set a Guinness record for World Couch Potato complained of remote fatigue. I must truly admit I really don't exercise an awful lot, (other than playing horseshoes), because it makes the ice jump right outta my glass. And remember too that you get exercise acting as a pallbearer for your friends who devoted a lot of time toward exercise. At any rate if you are confused by the difficult problem of diet and exercise—solve it easily by reducing it to the question: "How would the Lone Ranger handle this?"

See you in the funny papers, amigos!

JAMBOREE PRESENTED BY

The
Heritage Old Time Country Music
Association

HOTCMA

**On Sunday, Nov. 20, 2005,
1:30 to 5 p.m.**

**At
The Knights Of Columbus Hall
170 Ellis St. Pembroke, ON**

**House bands, old time, country music, step,
square and round dancing,
cash bar, food available, Smoke Free**

**Admission: \$6.00 ea. (Members \$5.00)
(12 years and under free)**

HOTCMA membership and info will be available

For more information visit www.hotcma.com or call 613 735 9682

Bittersweet Gallery

Open Daily 11-5

Discover artistic excellence at our
relocated Bittersweet Gallery in *The Heart of Burnstown*

Features the clay-relief sculptures of Richard Gill

Over 40 artists from across Canada

*Sculptures, Paintings, Jewelry,
Leather, Pottery, Glass & more*

An Historic B&B set amidst the
broadest selection of diverse art
work in the area

The Inn at Fog Run B&B

5 Leckie Lane 613 432-5254
www.burnstown.ca



Beyond the Bulrushes

Beyond the Bulrushes is an all year round shopping destination



*Royal Robbins and Woolrich quality, casual but fashionable
clothing for ladies and men*

Jewelry Home Decor Fine Foods Great Service!

Holiday Hours

Pre-Christmas hours
Open Daily 11-5
Thurs - Open until 8pm
from Dec 1 - Dec 22

After Jan 8
Open Fri-Sat-Sun
or by appointment

Closed
Dec 25 & 26
Jan 1 & 2

Brighten up your winter by visiting us in Burnstown

FLORELLA'S ANTIQUES & TREASURES

1715 Calabogie Rd
BurnsTown, Ont.
K0J 1G0

We Buy and Sell
15% off X-Mas
Decorations
15% off Linens

**Have A
Merry Christmas**

Email: florellas@sympatico.ca



Mon-Tue-Wed
11am-5pm

Thurs
10am-2:30pm

Fri- please call

Sat&Sun
11am-5pm

Closed Jan & Feb

**Call for Appointment
during Holidays**

(613)432-5890



*Steve Main of Eagle's Rest (Matawatchan)
receiving the CABA award for customer service
from CABA President Carolyn Jakes.*

GREATER MADAWASKA LITERARY

By Mary-Joan Hale

Happy fall to one and all! My husband and I walked up to Eagles Nest recently. What a peaceful place to stop and meditate. “Take only pictures; leave only footprints” is something some folks seem to ignore. The serenity was spoiled by foolish person(s) who had dumped a fridge, mattress and assorted garbage just off the trail. Someone else left a big tire. However, thanks to Tim Yearington’s trail signs we made it to the top.

Things are hopping as usual in the library. We celebrated Ontario Library Week with the awarding of Ontario Volunteer Awards to two hard working people. They were awarded with provincial pins and certificates of appreciation. We owe them much gratitude for their devotion to your library.

John Loten donated twelve years to the library. During ten of those he served as Chairman of the Board. Through tough financial times he remained positive and up beat. During his tenure, the library was moved to the basement of the Township building. He presided over the renovations and was instrumental in the construction of new shelving units and a Circulation Desk. The library was automated which enabled better control of the collection and faster cataloguing of materials. I personally benefited from his support as a kind, understanding and gentle boss.

Holly Goodyear, a Friend of the Library and in-house volunteer, devoted many hours doing inventory,

shelving and fundraising. She wrote and directed skits with the GM Players as well as the CBC Readings of Dickens’ A Christmas Carol. Thanks to her, many other volunteers followed her into the library and set to work. Automation of the library was eased through the efforts of Holly and her cheerful band of volunteers.

The trustees have been busy at work enacting the goals set during their Strategic Planning exercise last spring. Of the seven Critical Success Factors which they identified, one that is of prime importance is to extend library services into Wards 2 and 3. Trustees Don Strachan, Gail McEvoy and I travelled up to the DACA Centre to meet with the executive and present a plan to deliver materials to area residents. A meeting is planned in Griffith on November 23 and we hope to meet shortly in Matawachan as well. You pay for library services through municipal and provincial taxes. It is not convenient for many of you to travel to Calabogie, so to paraphrase an old saying: “If the mountain cannot come to the library, then the library will go to the mountain”!

We hope to have satellite sites at three places in Wards 2 and 3 for your convenience which will be open at specific times for pick-up and return. We will provide a binder containing available materials at these locations. Telephone or email the library with your request and it will be delivered by a township vehicle. We hope to have the service available in early 2006. Until then, you may order

the materials, but need to pick them up in Calabogie. We have an excellent collection of fiction, non-fiction, children’s and young peoples’ books, tapes, magazines and some videos. Membership forms will be provided to enrol as a patron to acquire your library card. All ratepayers in Greater Madawaska are eligible for free membership. Non-residents must pay an annual fee of \$15.00 per family. If the service proves to be useful, then we hope to acquire software allowing you to search and reserve materials from your home or CAP computer.

Another initiative is to attract more volunteers. This has been successful but we always need volunteer help either in the library or for special events. If you have a talent that you wish to share, painting, crafts or work with children, please let us know. We will require some volunteers in Wards 2 and 3 to portion out the materials as required. We have a special need at present for Book Buddies. Some of you have already indicated a desire to read with children and help those with reading difficulties. I am in the process of setting up this programme. A police screening will be required. The library could not run without our valuable volunteers. Thank you.

We have a wonderful, bright space but it is bulging at the seams. Another trustee committee is studying alternative space requirements should we ever be required to move.

I will describe other initiatives the trustees are working on for your benefit in further articles. It must

be noted that these board members give of their time voluntarily. They are not paid and do so out of a commitment to literacy, a love of reading and care about their community.

One of our trustees also volunteers as a computer instructor. The course is thirty hours over ten weeks every Monday. This term begins November 14 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. The fee is \$5.00 a visit. Space is limited so call for a spot. It will be offered again in the spring as well.

Once again, the library will be giving an amnesty to all you who are tardy with returns or find very old overdue books about the house. During the months of November and December, we will collect ‘Food for Fines’. These non-perishable items will be given to the Food Bank. We also started a Mitten tree two years ago and will do so again this year. Keep those wee fingers and heads warm.

New additions:

Adults: Louise Szabo (editor): Chimo Park on Black Donald Lake: Our history, our stories. Diana Gabaldon: A breath of snow and ashes; Mary Anderson: The price of fame; Robert Parker: Perish twice; Rona Jaffe: The road taken; Scrapbooking for the first time.

Easy Readers:

Nicola Davies: One tiny turtle; Rebecca Dotlitch: Grandpa loves; John B. Bear: The frog and the princess and the prince.

Junior and Youth:

Jon Scieszka: The not-so-jolly Roger; Barbara Davoll (adapted from L.M. Montgomery’s Story Girl): Books 1-4

Recognizing symptoms of a stroke

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke. Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

- 1.) Ask the individual to SMILE.
- 2.) Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS.
- 3.) Ask the person to SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE (coherently) (i.e. It is sunny out today)

The three commands, known as the Cincinnati Prehospital Stroke Scale (CPSS), are used by health professionals as a simple first step in the assessment process for signs of stroke. If a person has trouble with any of these simple commands, emergency services (911) should be called immediately with a descrip-

tion of the situation, noting that you suspect the individual is having a stroke.

A stroke results from impaired oxygen delivery to brain cells via the bloodstream. According to the U.S. National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, the five major signs of stroke are the sudden onset of:

- 1 - Numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body.
- 2 - The loss of voluntary movement and/or sensation may be complete or partial. There may also be an associated tingling sensation in the affected area.
- 3 - Confusion, trouble speaking or understanding. Sometimes weakness in the muscles of the face can cause drooling.
- 4 - Trouble seeing in one or both eyes, trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
- 5 - Severe headache with no known cause.

End

City Girl *continued*

you! The only way is to put some grain in a bowl and hope he’s hungry.

At last, everyone was settled. It’s been months since that day. As I look back I laugh at our inexperience. It’s not as if I know it all now though. You see, the goats and llama didn’t really care for the grass and greens in their fenced yard. The old saying “The grass is always greener on the other side” holds true for animals as well as people. So, we decided to patch up more fencing and let them out to graze outside their yard. At the time this seemed a great idea. They would be able to get more food, hopefully even trim our lawn. As the summer went, they began to venture further and further. So much further, that a few times I got phone calls like “Hum... Sorry to bother you but your llama is at the Church” or “Your llama is at my front door, what should I do?”

We patched the fencing again. As fall approached, the goats’ fleece got much



Bart of Matawatchan

longer and would be soon ready for sheering. I am reading up on carding and spinning and I have ambitions of wearing a scarf of my own angora by winter. But of course, a city girl can’t have it so easy out here, now can she? These lovely animals, rich in luscious fibre, stumbled into a large burr patch at the back of our property. Removing burrs is a lot like pulling bubble gum from your sibling’s hair. The fibre is utterly useless! It would be impossible to card and spin. So I am left to ponder... Where could I get some goat curry recipes?

End

Home Invasion

By Bill Graham

Editor's note: *First published in the earlier version of the Highlander some years ago.*

It's a mainly rural phenomenon, and every autumn signs of invasion are evident. Look for flies on the sunny side of your house or colourful beetles on your window screens in September. Did you see them? Are you a potential victim for home invasion?

The perpetrators are insects—specifically cluster flies and asian lady beetles. Depending on how modern or tight your house, you might already be suffering from these pests. Know your enemy!

Cluster Flies

I've been encountering cluster flies for over 20 years. But, I live in one of the oldest houses in Matawatchan. Log houses are notorious for cluster flies. The cracks in chinking, the seams in old logs, the dove tailing—all are entry points. If I arrive at my cabin in November, it's initially quiet and still, but after two hours of heat from the wood stove, a buzz develops—cluster flies!

They develop as parasites of earthworms during spring and summer, but bring with them none of the associated health problems of filth-breeding species such as houseflies and

flesh flies. Furthermore, the cluster flies found in homes are just transient visitors; they do not breed within the dwelling nor directly feed while occupying your house. If your house remains under 54° F, they hibernate and you will never see them except perhaps on warm afternoons when they might cluster on sunny windows. The more abundant earthworms are, the more likely it is that cluster flies will abound and become a nuisance.

Problems with cluster flies begin in late August as they move to winter quarters. Because they seek a warmed site with protective cracks for shelter, buildings hold a particular attraction. When they are ready to go into winter dormancy they perch on the warmed south facing surfaces and many ultimately find their way to the upper stories. Once inside they remain quiet and may cluster together within wall voids. As winter progresses, and particularly following a warm day, increasing numbers awake from their dozy hibernation condition and resume activity.

An ounce of prevention

If cluster flies can be denied access to a building, they will not be a nuisance or require control. Often certain types of buildings or portions of buildings are preferred. Make sure of the following:

- All windows, louvers, air vents, etc. are tightly screened.
- All cracks around windows, chimneys, and trim are kept

tightly caulked.

- All splits and holes in the siding are kept caulked and painted over.

Although caulking and careful carpentry, which limit the entry of flies, are time consuming, expensive, or impractical and futile, they should be seriously considered when alterations, remodeling, etc. are being planned. Tight, full-coverage polyethylene vapor barriers, including window casings and doorjamb areas, can be very effective if installed during remodeling. If plugging all the entry points in your house is a totally futile exercise, you can limit the number of flies entering your house by spraying the outside walls where flies congregate before invading your house.

A residual spray applied under the eaves, around windows, and to other outside areas where flies are seen congregating will reduce the number of flies entering the house. Normally this involves the south and east or west sides of the building. Residual sprays should be thoroughly applied to exterior surfaces but not to the point of runoff. About one gallon of diluted spray per 1,000 square feet should suffice, but follow label directions. Treat in late August or early September, before the first hard frosts occur and when flies begin to congregate. Repeat as necessary for control desired. Residual control and the period of needed protection will vary with the weather and building surfaces. Depending upon the structure(s) and the weather, it may not be possible to control all the flies.

A pound of cure

If you already have cluster flies and you want to avoid using insecticides in your house, then the vacuum cleaner is probably your best line of attack. It's time-consuming and at times it seems futile, but eventually you can reduce the overwintering population of flies—you'll never get them all. After your first assault on the flies block any exits from the vacuum cleaner. Wait for a few hours until more flies accumulate on your window, then vacuum again. Another solution is Cluster Buster 1000—a Cluster Fly Trap. These traps attach to the inside of any window. The white plastic traps are filled with finely ground eggshell, which seem to attract the flies in. Once inside, the powder is so light and fluffy that the flies actually sink into the powder providing a "quicksand" effect. The powdered eggshell clogs the passages (sphaeracles) of their breathing system. These traps represent the most environmentally-friendly approach to control and are virtually non toxic. This Cluster Fly trap is called the Cluster Buster 1000 because it is reputed to trap a thousand or more flies. Traps can be ordered over the Internet or ordered for you at a hardware store. The retail price for this trap is around \$25 each.

The Asian Lady Beetle

In the next article in this two-part series I will tell you more than you ever wanted know about the Asian Lady Beetle—a beneficial, but sometimes annoying houseguest.

End

MADAWASKA NORDIC SKI CLUB

The new Madawaska Nordic Ski Club is a community cross-country ski group. Working in conjunction with the Township's Recreation Committee, Madawaska Nordic will be staffed entirely by volunteers who will be responsible for development, maintenance and grooming of cross-country ski trails within the Township.

Funding support of around \$20,000 via grants received from the Province of Ontario's 'Communities In Action' (Active 2010) and the Trillium Foundation have enabled the club to purchase state-of-the-art grooming and track-setting equipment along with a Skandic wide track snowmobile. In addition to the grooming equipment money will also be spent on signage and publicity.

The Township of Greater Madawaska helped the club by contributing \$2,000 to the effort since the Club's initiative supported the Township's goal for the development of all-season trails, which will promote tour-

ism in the area. It is anticipated that Greater Madawaska will have more than 10 km. of quality, groomed trails open for recreational use this winter. The hope is that more trails for cross-country skiing will be developed over successive years.

Cross-country skiing was rated as the number one or number two winter activity in all wards by respondents to last year's Recreation Survey that was distributed to all municipal residents.

Snow willing, the trails will be available for use by the end of this calendar year. The fees are very reasonable at \$2 for the day or \$20 for the season. The first trail will be located behind Calabogie Peaks Village, which is located across the Highway (508) from the Calabogie Peaks. By the time there is snow there will also be signs to provide you with directions. What the club really needs are volunteers.

For further information, contact Ian or Pam Cunningham at 613-432-6735 or email the Madawaska Ski Club at madawaskanordic@sympatico.ca .

Glaeser's

GENERAL STORE

Christmas Boxed cards
and wrapping paper

Men's Work gloves
different styles + sizes

Striped Sunflower Seed
Black Oil Sunflower Seed
Mixed Bird Seed
All sold here in
5lb or 50lb bags

156 Bridge St., Denbigh, Ont KOH 1L0
(613) 333-1077
Groceries, Sundries, Tobacco Products
Hunting and Fishing Supplies
Ed & Barb Villamere, Proprietors

Historical Insights and the authors that reveal them come together

Historical Insights and the authors that reveal them come together at **Michigamme Writer's Retreat** in the last Weekend of the month on November 26th. Michigamme, is set on the shores of the Madawaska River just three km west of Burnstown, and bids a welcome and tranquil setting for writers.

Linda Granfield, award-winning children's author of many non-fiction books including *In Flanders Fields: The Story of the Poem by John McCree* will head up the day. "If you're incurably curious, like to poke into dusty corners, and find any excuse to dig up the past, then you're ready to write non-fiction. But be warned; you are entering dangerous territory," adds Grandfield. "Facts grab you and never let you go. Even after your information book or article is written, you will continue to research

the topic. You won't be able to help yourself." Granfield laughs and says, "overall, readers have thanked me for this addition in historical writing."

Local columnist, *The Family Historian*, Patrick Wohler will also be on hand for writers. His tips on researching will be valuable whether your writing about your own family or setting out to write that historical non-fiction novel about a subject you've always been dying to dig into. Wohler comes from a wide background in history and historical research, teaching history at the secondary and college levels, working in museums across Canada, and founding the three-year museum studies program at Algonquin College. His local columns on different aspects of researching family history are popular. And if that wasn't enough, he has eight books

to his credit, the latest soon due out for publication, *"The Early Commercial Photographers of Lanark & Renfrew Counties: 1850-1925."*

The day also includes an historical trip back into the 1800's in Burnstown with local historian and author, Irene Robillard. Robillard is the author of *Burnstown United Church 1849-99 (150 years as a congregation)* and is currently compiling and writing a book on Springtown's early days.

Michigamme Writer's Retreat is owned, and run by Noreen Violetta, an author herself of over 200 articles, stories and features for print and broadcast in the United States and Canada. A former television news anchor/reporter, she now teaches magazine writing with the Institute of Children's Literature and heads up the Society of Children's

Book Writers & Illustrators in Eastern Canada. Those wishing to register can contact Violetta at 613-433-9737 or michigamme@renc.igs.net. The \$70 day includes lunch, with an optional trip on Friday to the National Archives in Ottawa for a two-hour workshop. Participants must register by November 23rd.

Fiction writers wanting to write that novel, might want to check out the following weekend's workshop (Dec. 3 & 4) with author, Leo Brent Robillard on the following weekend. Robillard is author of the critically acclaimed novel, *Leaving Wyoming*- heralded by the Globe & Mail as "a case of the word transcending 1,000 pictures." Registration for this workshop can be obtained by phoning or emailing Violetta. *Michigamme* is located at 2271 Calabogie Road, just outside of Burnstown.

End

City girl Australia continued

however as long as either the sun shines constantly, or the wind keeps blowing when it's not, we seem to do ok. At least we have finally figured out what all the switches are for – we think. We have had a few instances where we had to turn the fridge off as we just didn't have enough power to run it through the night, and TV watching is a rare treat after we've had an exceptional power day. But since doing away with things like irons, hair dryers and a whole bevy of electrical appliances, I hardly remember what it is like to have these things around, never mind what I needed them for in the first place.

Our on-board 'well' had a maximum capacity of 200L (we think), and often runs dry. Its contents are faithfully supplied by my better half via two 20L jerry cans filled at the marina and carted across in the dingy. I have attempted the chore myself a couple of times, but only when I wanted water to run freely without being scolded for using too much water – like when doing dishes or having a shower...

Showering: This sometimes happens at the marina where they have a single public hot shower. It's a bit old and in need of some renovation, so I usually opt to have a cockpit shower on board whenever I can – weather permitting. Now that summer is nearly upon us, it is becoming more refreshing instead of unbearable. Our on-board outdoor shower once involved boiling a kettle of water over the propane stove top and emptying it into a bucket of cold water until the desired temperature was reached, and then pumping it out from there. But we've since upgraded to a more permanent

solution consisting of a stationary water container (a blue jerry can) and shower pump that sits on deck in the sun and gets warm on its own.

I'll share more observations of a city girl, in another country, in future issues of the Highlander.

End

Annie's uncooked chili sauce

1 peck tomatoes (large basket)
2 heads celery (1 large head is sufficient)
2 sweet peppers
2 hot peppers
6 medium size onions
 $\frac{3}{4}$ cup pickling salt (not iodized)

Cut vegetables in small pieces, add salt and let stand all day.

Drain over night
In the morning add....

$\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Mustard seed

4 cups sugar
4 cups vinegar

Let stand 4 to 6 hours and then bottle and seal. This chili sauce keeps well and retains colour.

-Annie Thomson



THE WHITE PINES

Located on Black Donald/Centennial Lake, take the Popkie road off of the Centennial Lake Road at our large wooden and stone sign.

Enjoy the four seasons on one of the largest lakes in Eastern Ontario.

Hundreds of miles of pristine forests and waters, ensuring a quiet and private holiday.

Visit our newest cottage with stone fireplace and 2 person Jacuzzi tub

We offer beautiful waterfront housekeeping cottages, open year round

Come and grow with us, with our new expansion plans:

- new waterfront trailer sites
- expanded groomed cross country ski trails
- 160 acres of private hunting/wilderness grounds with fully equipped cottage.

Marina with boat and aviation gas. Boat rentals on a daily or weekly basis.

Shawn and Valerie Popkie

www.thewhitepines.com 613-752-2884 info@thewhitepines.com

Craigmont, Crystals and Creeps

by Doug Smith

The Craigmont Mine is located on Robillard Mountain about three miles from the junction of the Madawaska, York, and Little Mississippi Rivers at Conroy Marsh. The hill which has an elevation of 1500 feet rises 600 feet above the confluence of these three rivers offering a panoramic view from the top. It was opened for the mining of corundum in 1900 and operated off and on until 1946. During this period, it produced 84% of all corundum in Canada and once employed two thousand people. A twenty ton mill was erected in 1900 and the village of Craigmont, named after the vice president of the company, grew at the foot of Robillard Mountain. A 200-ton mill was built in 1903 (shown in photograph) and continued production until it burned down in 1913. By this time the main veins of ore were mined out so a 100 ton mill was built in 1919 to treat the tailings from previous mining operations. As a result of wartime demand, a 200-ton mill was built in 1944 to retreat the tailings. It closed in 1946. Corundum was a difficult mineral to mine as it ranks second only to diamond on the mineral scale of hardness. It was widely used as an abrasive until it was gradually supplanted by artificial abrasives, silicon carbide, and alumina. The manufacture of glass and fine pottery were also uses for this versatile mineral. Corundum is still used in producing optical flour for lens grinding and snagging wheels used in the production of forgings and castings. The typical mill contained huge jaw crushers for the primary crushing with the secondary crushing being done by large steel rollers. It was then screened, jigged, and graded. Finally, it was finished by removing magnetite with magnetic separation, dried, dry-screened, and bagged. The ore was taken by cart and tramway from thirty open cuts on the west and south faces of the mountain, the largest of which has a length of 500 feet, a width of 100 feet, and a maximum face of about fifty feet in height. At the base of each face is a huge pile of tailings comprising boulders from house-size to hard, sharp baseballs. Some faces also have ponds at the base that can be used for bathing on hot, buggy days.

While ascending this chain of cliffs and boulders, be on the lookout for barrel shaped, six sided, dark colored crystals ranging from one to eight inches in diameter. A corundum crystal weighing sixty pounds has been found at this mine. If you decide to forego the pleasure of this climb, you can refresh your-

self in the cool, bug-free bowels of the mountain. At an elevation of 990 feet, a tunnel (adit) was driven northward into the side of the hill for 220 feet. From there an irregular drift tends westward from the end of the adit for 150 feet, south for 70 feet, and then curves northwestward for 50 feet. A number of slashes extend into the walls of the drifts. Presented with 500 feet of tunnel and numerous side cuts to explore, my 'rockhound' companion Steve Cameron and I began our journey with chisels, picks, hammers, and one flashlight with dying batteries. The opening of the tunnel has ankle-deep water which lasts for 50 feet where the tunnel widens and bats start to appear on the ceiling. At 100 feet the ceiling is covered with bats. When I ask Steve what we do if they all decide to take off at once, he mumbles something about finding Boss Bat, and I'm starting to worry that he's gone batty. At 150 feet not only is the ceiling covered with bats but the walls too. The fact that our flashlight is so dim is all that keeps them from spooking, but they are making an electronic buzzing noise that is making me more nervous than Steve and his Boss Bat theory. At 200 feet we enter a large room about 40 by 15 by 8 foot walls to ceiling with bats. I have since learned that biologists have identified five species of bats in this tunnel. At 220 feet the tunnel turns to the left narrowing down to 10 by 8 feet and the electronic buzz is intensifying, becoming an angry hiss. With the flashlight now a faint orange glow, I foresee having to feel my way through a mass of crawling, flying, angry bats for 200 feet of dark tunnel. When I relate this vision to Steve, he agrees to abandon the search for Boss Bat. We make a careful but hasty retreat to daylight. Once we shake away the creeps from this excursion, we remember some tools we left in the tunnel. They are still there. If you visit this jewel on the Madawaska, be sure to take boots, bug jacket, hat, gloves, camera, and two flashlights with fresh batteries.

Sudoku answers

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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



Same Day Courier Service



557 Pine St, Griffith (right next door to the rink)
To or from anywhere in Renfrew

Monday to Friday - \$5.00 each pick or drop
(Prescriptions may require written authorization.)

Contact Brenda Dool

Ph: 613-333-2296

Fax: 613-333-1550

Email: infodool@fcicanada.net

Energy innovators *continued*

The RCDSB's success with the DC program has far surpassed results obtained elsewhere in the province. The trainers have been very impressed by the attendance and enthusiasm of the participants. And the results speak for themselves. James Brose, energy management coordinator for the Board so far estimates that annual utility savings on the order of 175 thousand dollars have been achieved from behaviour changes such as turning off lights and computers when not in use, turning down the heat, keeping radiators clear and making sure that exhaust fans don't run unnecessarily. The Board is set to begin the third and final year of DC in its elementary schools and would like to extend the program to include high schools this year.

Last summer, with funding from Natural Resources Canada, the RCDSB conducted energy efficiency retrofits on five of its elementary schools. Changes included upgrading of insulation, installation of new windows, new lighting and installation of new heating systems including new modular boilers that are much more efficient and adjustable to varying demands for heat throughout the building and the school-year. A particularly innovative addition at three of the schools was a heat wheel ventilation unit, a big wheel covered by a fine synthetic membrane that mixes incoming and outgoing air resulting in considerable energy savings and a great improvement to comfort.

To keep track of its energy savings (a requirement of its NRCan grant) the RCDSB has developed an energy monitoring and tracking system that is very impressive in its sophistication and simplicity of use. All energy-using devices in every school down to the last light-bulb

are tracked and data are accessible to staff and students through a web interface. The system is called Energy Investigator and provides staff and students with immediate feedback on the impact of their programs to reduce energy consumption. The system was fully operational for the start of the current school year.

Also new for the current school year is a solar heating system at McNab Public School. The system is based on a series of 33 units called Power Spars, an innovative device for capturing solar energy and using it to heat water or generate electricity. These devices are designed and manufactured in Kanata by a company named Menova Energy Inc. The system is expected to provide 66% of total heating for the school, with the balance coming from propane boilers. NRCan staff are very interested in this project and will be using data from McNab school to verify some of their projections about solar heating systems. There is also a high level of interest from other school boards and municipalities.

Congratulations to RCDSB Director of Education Eleanor Newman, Energy Management Coordinator James Brose, Curriculum Coordinator Sherri Wylie, Board members, staff and students, for outstanding examples of energy innovation. We applaud your leadership!

Lynn Jones is a member of the Ottawa River Institute, a non-profit charitable organization supported by volunteers, local donors and a grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. For more information please visit the ORI website at www.ottawariverinstitute.ca

End

The Eagle's Rest

5373 Centennial Lake Road

Telephone: 613-333-2713

www.TheEaglesRest.ca



Gas Propane
Groceries Confectionary
Movie Rentals

**Merry Christmas &
Happy New Year**
to all of our valued customers.

Closed from:

November 21

Until

December 8

Winter hours:

Monday to Thursday 11 am to 7 pm

Friday & Saturday 9 am to 7 pm

Sunday 9 am to 5 pm

JOCKO'S



BEACH RESORT

Motel

LAKEFRONT COTTAGES

FAMILY SIZE UNITS

WITH KITCHENS

Boat Rental

613-752-2107

5254 Calabogie Road (Hwy 508)

www.jockosbeach.com

CALABOGIE LODGE

729 MILL STREET
TEL. (613) 752-2676

Email: info@calabogielodge.com

Website: www.calabogielodge.com



RENTALS

Visit our website for availability on rentals. Inventory can be located on the rental info link. Call TODAY as inventory goes quickly.

RESALE

Resort prices have been discounted. All available resale inventory prices vary between \$1000 to \$9295.00 for vacation interval. Conversion to points extra.

CALABOGIE PEAKS RESORT



Great Gift Ideas

Season Passes

Invest in winter fun

Lesson Programs

Ski, board, freestyle
for all ages and levels

Peaks Passes

Booklets of 5
discounted lift tickets

Canthooks Restaurant

Enjoy our new menu

Les Saisons Spa

Ultimate relaxation and
renewal for everyone

New Year's Eve Celebration

Hors D'oeuvres
Deluxe Buffet
Disc Jockey
Champagne
Party Favours

Gift Certificates Available

613-752-2720

www.calabogie.com