

The Ripple

A monthly
publication by
Baxter Creek Enterprises Inc.

Volume 1 / Number 2

January 3, 1995

Local search dogs featured on CBC

by Celia Hunter

It's a pretty tight fit; Wayne Rostad, a producer, camera operator and sound technician, three dog handlers, a friend or two, and five bloodhounds, all in Deb Hancock's kitchen! When the CBC show, *On The Road Again*, comes knocking at the door, you make room. Which is just what Deb Hancock and her partners with Kawartha and Region Search Dogs, Peg Jeffrey and Gerry Sullivan did.

On The Road Again is a nationally televised CBC network show that highlights individuals who take the initiative to do something a little different. Deb, Peg and Gerry with their Search Dogs provided the perfect story.

Deb Hancock lives on the Zion 4th Line of Cavan on the edge of the Ganaraska Forest. She works as a veterinary technologist, and owns three bloodhounds, Hazel, Tip and Greg. Hazel is eight, and was the inspiration for the formation of the Kawartha and Region Search Dogs. A show champion, with obedience titles, Deb dubs her "Beauty with Brains". Looking for a way to challenge and stimulate Hazel, Deb hit on using her for what she's designed for; sniffing.

As Deb explains, the wrinkles in a bloodhound's face along with their long ears, trap and direct scent to the powerful nose. And powerful it is indeed; at least 150,000 times greater than ours, and perhaps as much as twice that. In addition, the skin on a bloodhound rolls loosely over its frame, allowing the dog to follow a scent through thickets and brambles with no snagging or injury.

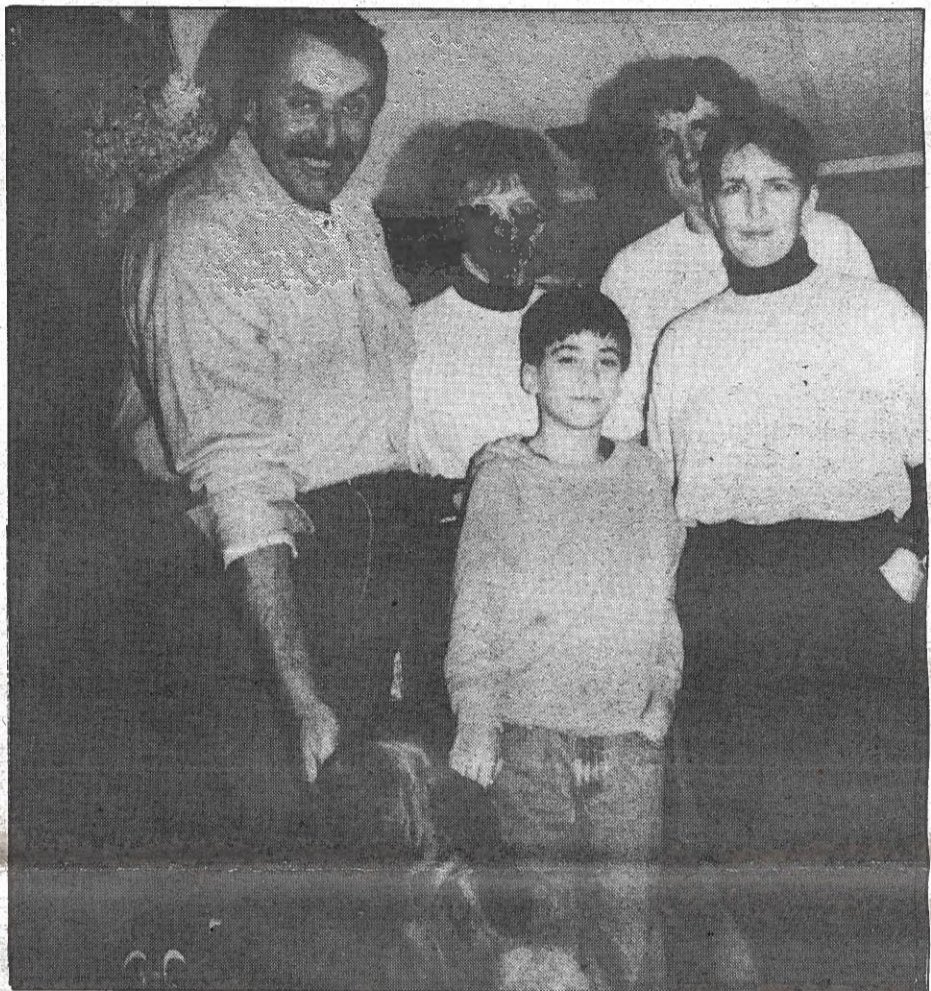
In 1990, the Kawartha and Region Search Dogs were created. Affiliated now with 50 fire departments, the dogs and their handlers are trained and ready at all times to participate in a search for a missing person.

Deb explains to volunteer fire departments the procedure to follow. When a missing person is reported, the first response is to contact the appropriate police department. If the Fire Department is involved in the search, Deb urges firefighters to contact the Search Dog team. Procedures for protecting the search area from contamination and for providing the dogs with a scent are part of the team's presentation.

The dogs Hazel, Tip, Greg, Oak and Duke train once a week with their owners. They have successfully tested over 16 and 24-hour old trails, and go for training and evaluation sessions in the United States. They work with other search units south of the border all year round, where almost all Sheriff's departments have access to and use bloodhounds.

There's more to this than just following a scent. The Search Dogs learn how to look up in trees if the scent seems to go nowhere else, to look down into streams and pools, and to knock down doors if need be.

"Williams Shell Station have been really helpful in our training sessions, letting a 'victim' into the garage to hide in the cab of the tow truck," says Deb, explaining that the tracking dog goes right up to the truck's door and makes it quite clear that someone has to open it.



Hazel the bloodhound is surrounded by admirers. Left to right - Wayne Rostad, Peg Jeffrey, Eben Hancock, Gerry Sullivan, and Deb Hancock.

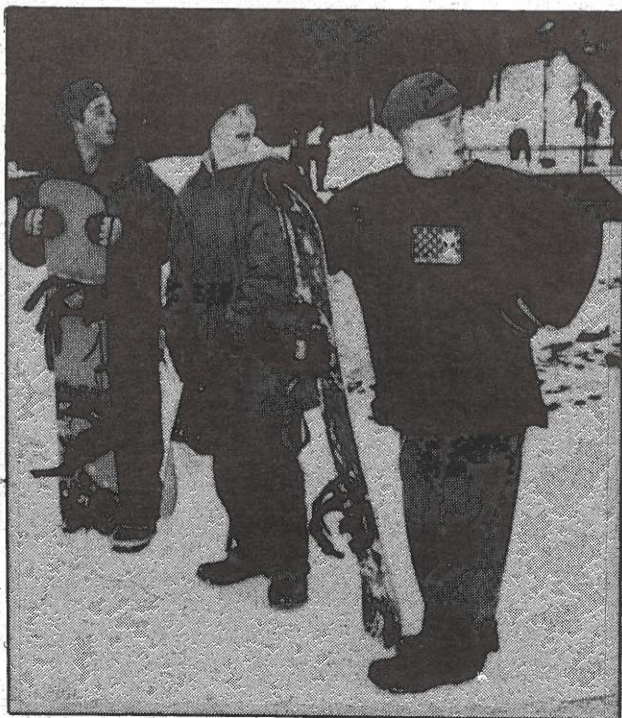
The handlers too have to be trained, and Deb and her colleagues keep extensive records of every training session, qualify in CPR and first aid, and keep up a rigorous fitness regime. As one half of the team, holding the leash, the handler has to be able to keep up to the dog, and interpret any confusion or problems the dog may encounter.

Deb, Peg and Gerry aren't in this for the money. They fund their program entirely on their own. Yard sales help pay for the trips to the States. It is their extraordinary sense of commitment and dedication to a

cause outside and beyond the regular working day, that make them ideal subjects for *On The Road Again*.

As the camera crew shot scene after scene, the dogs sat quietly and patiently by, content to be surrounded by people, their friends. Wayne Rostad couldn't have chosen a nicer bunch to work with.

(*On The Road Again* can be seen on Toronto's CBC Channel 5 on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 and on CHEX, Sundays at 4. The Ripple will publish the airing date for the Kawartha and Region Search Dogs story when it becomes available.)



Those pros make it look so easy! Fowlers Corners residents, Chris Harris, Pat Rafail, and Mt. Pleasant's John (Gilbs) Baker, take in the action at the Snowboard Ranch.

Take a flying leap at Snowboard Ranch

by Maureen Wideman
It has the latest snow making equipment, numerous runs, tows and lifts, equipment rentals, lessons -- yet the sign at the gate says, "NO SKIERS PLEASE". What is this facility? It is Canada's only snowboard ranch and it is located right next door in Bethany.

The Snowboard Ranch is a 12 acre park devoted strictly to snowboarding. Designed by North American and World Champion Jimi Scott, the ranch boasts more hips, table tops, rails, funboxes, banks, berms, transitions and bonks than anywhere else in Canada. To find out exactly what all the

lingo means, you'll have to visit the ranch!

The Snowboard Ranch's grand opening is January 7 and 8 and will feature a variety of special events, including pro riders who will be on hand to demonstrate their skills.

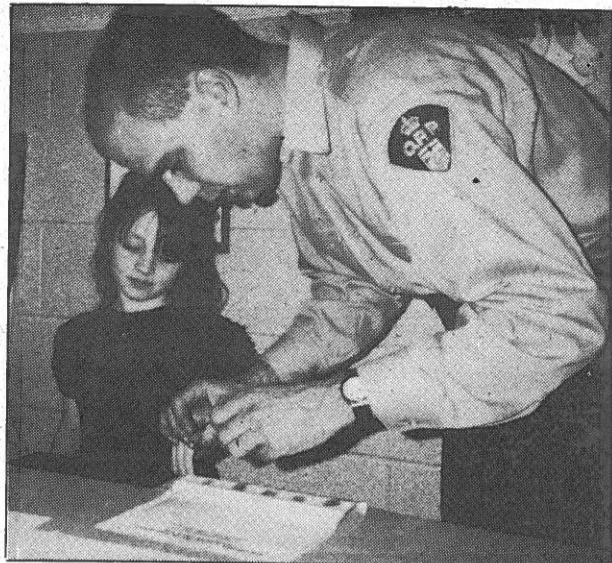
Snowboarding is one of the fastest growing sports. It is a combination of surfing and skateboarding on snow. The snowboard has bindings like skis, and riders wear a soft boot. Equipment rentals are available as well as the services of a snowboarding school for all levels of expertise. A full day lift ticket is \$25.

This will be the first year for the ranch and inquiries

have been coming in from far and wide. It has been featured on television, radio and in the press. Calls have been received from Vermont and Quebec, wanting information on the ranch and accommodation facilities. The Ranch offers a shuttle bus service which will pick up riders at various locations in the Toronto area. Linda Bertrim, Group Co-ordinator, is trying to launch a school program. As a relatively new sport, schools have been a little hesitant. Many already have established ski programs, but are willing to learn more about snowboarding.

The ranch-style lodge has been newly renovated to hold a 12,000 square foot seating area with a cafeteria-style restaurant. A licensed patio with a full view of the competition style halfpipe has also been added. New high tech snowmaking equipment has been installed to pump 18,000 gallons of snow per minute from the 11 million gallon reservoir. A General Store to sell a variety of snowboarding accessories and equipment is also on site.

The Snowboard Ranch is located 2 kilometres north of the village of Bethany, off Highway 7A, on County Road 38.



Millbrook OPP Constable Jeff Galipeau gives student Amber Elliott a hand during the fingerprinting program at Millbrook South Cavan School.

Kids give I.D. program high five

by Carolyn Conrad

On December 5 and 6, members of the Millbrook Cavan South Monaghan Community Policing Committee, together with Millbrook O.P.P. and Millbrook South Cavan Home and School volunteers conducted a free child identification fingerprinting program for students of Millbrook South Cavan School and Annex.

A total of 341 students, 80% of the school enrolment, were processed, which was deemed to be an excellent response to the program. All fingerprint forms will be returned to parents for safekeeping once school photos are attached.

All students were processed in approximately four hours thanks to the I.D. team which included Sergeant Dave Osborne, Constables Jeff Galipeau, Carol Heard, Jeff Laporte, Rob Therrien, Paul Shaughnessy and Dave Vaughan as well as Community Policing members Jane Martell and Carolyn Conrad. Volunteers assisting in the processing were Melba Boyd, Laura Weatherilt, Helen Bendall and Cheryl Van Schyndel. A big thank you also to school secretary Mrs. Pat Armstrong who had all the paperwork in order, and to principal Graham Nie for his support of the program.

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Women's health issues subject of ten week series

Women from Millbrook and the surrounding area will not have far to go to participate in a ten week series on Thursday afternoons from January 26 to March 30. **Well Women: Body, Mind and Spirit** will be offered by the Women's Health Care Centre of Peterborough Civic Hospital and the Peterborough Office of the Canadian Mental Health

Association at the Old School in Millbrook.

During the ten weeks, women will discuss topics such as Coping Better With Stress, Self-Esteem, and Taking Care. During one session the group will cook a low-fat meal and then feast on the food they have prepared.

Facilitators Martha Jack and Anne Cole have just wrapped up a similar group in Buckhorn where the series was very well

received. In that group, women who ranged in age from their twenties to seventies had a chance to have fun, learn, and share with each other.

Recognizing that many women lead demanding lives with limited resources, Anne and Martha have built in supports to ensure that women have access to this program. A number of child care subsidies will be available to help moms

pay for the care of pre-school children. When women register, they will be asked if they need or could offer transportation. This way, women can be paired up to travel together. The cost of the series is \$10 in total.

If you would like to register or want more information, please call the Women's Health Care Centre at 876-5031.

Volunteers and community work just part of Scouting's winning ways

by Melisande Neal

Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers have been putting in a winning effort this year. They are fresh from Millbrook's Santa Claus Parade, proud winners of prizes for the Best Overall Float and Best Organizational Float. Thanks are due to all the young people and other decorators, as well as to the Legion for sponsoring this community event.

New leaders this year include Diane Hogue and

Troy Carlson with the Beavers, Karen Bebee at the Cub level, with Mike Dorsay and Doreen Miller helping with the Venturers program. They join leaders Julie Becker with the Beavers, Glenn Bebee and Bill Jilesen in Cubs, Scout leaders Wayne Gregory and Martin Jones, and Frank Daley with Venturers.

Venturers John Pollock, Stuart Paul and Kirk Pollock are also

participating as leaders-in-training, helping out with Beavers and Cubs. Sandy Neal, Jonathan Jilesen and Laura White, also in the Venturer program, have been active in community volunteer work, working in particular in co-operation with Millbrook Community Care and the Senior Citizens' Council.

Activities in the Scouting program this year include canoe trips, camping and

hikes, visits to a local trout farm and a Petes game, floor hockey, swimming, Remembrance Day ceremonies, Apple Day and a lecture on the Titanic. Participants in Scouting have just completed a very successful fundraising campaign selling poinsettias. Proceeds will allow the volunteer leaders to plan and present the best Scouting programs possible.

Millbrook's Old School still a centre for learning in the community

Well over a decade after the Old Millbrook School ceased to function as a conventional educational institution, people in the community still gather within its stately brick walls to learn. However, instead of the classic line-up of reading, writing and arithmetic, the people who gather at the Old School are in pursuit of quite different knowledge.

The Old Millbrook School is now a community gathering place for recreational activities, some privately run and

others sponsored by Millbrook Recreation. Gymnastics and Judo are among the very popular programs organized by Millbrook's Recreation Co-ordinator, Maureen McElwain. The Community Room on the school's main floor is also used for both daytime and evening aerobics classes, ballet and Highland Dance instruction, and Tai Chi.

Once a month The Garden Club meets to learn more in the horticulture field, and from time to time, you will even

find a folk Coffee House in Room 3, sponsored by the Millbrook Cavan Environmental Watch.

Across the hall in Room 2, the Historical Society houses their permanent collection of valued historical artifacts and memorabilia. Members and interested guests meet here monthly to enjoy talks by speakers well versed in various aspects related to local history and share tales and reminiscences. Room 2 also serves as the Millbrook Municipal Council Chambers.

Upstairs, you may find drama workshops in the 4th Line Theatre's

rehearsal room, while next door, Brookside Studios produces art of another kind, through the medium of photography.

With so much going on, and the potential for so much more, the Old School promises to continue carrying on with the function it was designed for far into the future.

Millbrook Residents Be sure to leave your Christmas tree out for pick-up for The Tree Burn!



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on a refreshing first issue!

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South Monaghan's Inaugural meeting; from left, Clerk June Buettner, Deputy Reeve James K. Wood, Councillor Jack Arthur, Reeve Dennis Hannah, Councillors Malcolm Syer and Liz Coleman, Road Superintendent Paul Dunham, Building and By-law Enforcement Officer Steve White and Dog Control Officer Tony Lloyd.

Library board honoured for three years service

by Debbie Chilton

As their terms of office drew to a close, the trustees of the Cavan Millbrook South Monaghan Library Board of the past three years were honoured at an Appreciation Night. Special honours and high praise went to Mrs. Anna Whittington who has retired from the Board after many years of dedicated service.

Librarians Margot Loucks of Millbrook, Bonnie Bullock of Mount Pleasant and Vilda Nurse of Bailieboro presented Mrs. Whittington with a bouquet of cut flowers and an award commemorating her long and outstanding service. In a speech, Mrs. Nurse commended Mrs. Whittington for her endless and tireless work on behalf of the three libraries. One thing is certain; Mrs. Whittington will be missed on the CMSM Library Board.

New council sworn in

by Debbie Chilton

Inauguration ceremonies for the new Council of South Monaghan were held on December 5. The ceremony was well attended by local residents. The Reverend John Peters of Emmanuel United Church in Bailieboro officiated at the swearing-in ceremony.

Former deputy-reeve Dennis Hannah has been elected to take over as reeve of South Monaghan. He replaces Mrs. Anna Whittington who has retired from the community's political spotlight after many years. Mrs. Whittington was honoured for her 20 years of service with a plaque especially designed and crafted for her by

local artist Roy Illott.

Filling the position of deputy-reeve is former councillor James Wood, a very active member of this community. The three councillors on the new Council were acclaimed: Jack Arthur, Malcolm Syer and the only new person to join the Council, Mrs. Isabella Coleman.

Mr. Syer, with 16 years on Council to his credit, read a very moving tribute in honour of Mrs. Whittington, thanking her for her years of dedication to South Monaghan. He expressed his best wishes for her retirement and confidence that she will maintain a keen interest in the affairs of the community.



On camera; taping for *On The Road Again* at the Millbrook Fire Station, from left, volunteer fireman Keith Shultz, dog trainer Gerry Sullivan with Duke, firemen George Varty, Ross Ball, Joe Lunn Sr., trainer Peg Jeffrey with Oak, firemen Joe Lunn Jr., Marty Hutchison, trainer Deb Hancock with Greg and Hazel, firemen Terry deMille, Dave Powell and Chief Rob Landry with CBC camera operator Roger Dubois. Story on page 1.

Bell of Batoche subject of new play

by Mary Sutherland

There are other ways to spend a Saturday evening than attending yet another meeting, yet three hours later, both a soft-spoken man and a silver bell had acquired a significance of national importance for all those present.

We were there to meet Bruce Sinclair, Métis teacher, author, actor, playwright, and Rob Winslow, founder and inspired genius of the 4th Line Theatre. These men had jointly conceived the idea of writing and producing a play based on the story of the Bell of Batoche. A story which most present in that room thought we knew - spoils of war brought back to Millbrook by local heroes from the Riel Rebellion of 1885. It was buried in Baxter Creek, hung in the old firehall steeple, hidden away again by local protectors, and finally installed in the Legion Hall. Eventually it would vanish from both the Hall

and the Village, present whereabouts unknown. What we had not known was what that silver bell, only some 35 or 40 pounds in weight, represented to Bruce Sinclair and the Métis. They lost the Battle of Batoche just as they were to lose the Rebellion. The Métis were dispersed as far away as British Columbia and the northern United States. Language, customs, culture, life style - all victims of battle and war. The lives of the Métis were forever changed. Had the bell disappeared for all time, there would be no story but, it didn't. It re-surfaced in a little Ontario village to which Batoche and the Riel Rebellion had never posed a threat. As the evening continued, the real potential of the Winslow/Sinclair idea became clear -- the national ramifications of the bell as once a divisive symbol and its potential now for a reunion of two

racers. As always with people involved in true communication, it was discovered they share vastly more in common than the sum of the disparities, such as ancestral backgrounds and religious beliefs. And the play? In our minds, it became the vehicle for all those truths; one which would jointly be produced in Saskatchewan at an undetermined venue and at 4th Line Theatre in rural Ontario two years hence. It is Rob Winslow's stated intention to actively involve all the residents of Millbrook and Cavan Township in the production. It is a broad, all-encompassing canvas. Yes, there are other ways to spend a Saturday evening. But few can offer the perceptive, enquiring, creative minds of a Rob Winslow and a Bruce Sinclair and enabling those present to share in the knowledge of a project of such potential importance.

Calhoun's IGA in Millbrook is bigger and better for 1995 and I have a lot of people to thank.

- 🐾 My family, and especially sons Kevin, Greg, and Andy for their loving support
- 🐾 My extended family, meaning the staff, for their years of loyalty and dedicated service
- 🐾 To Oshawa Foods for their confidence in me and their assistance in filling the new store
- 🐾 And to our patrons who, over the years, have remained loyal.

Calhoun's IGA has been a partner in the community for 21 years. And now we offer you more: full deli and bakery service with meat and cheese trays and birthday cakes; fruit baskets; an expanded produce selection; a larger variety of custom butchering done on site; more parking and longer hours

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We're bigger and we're better, but we've kept our traditional dedication to service

To all of you who helped turn an idea into a reality, may you realize your own dreams in 1995

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The Ripple

Established 1994

A monthly publication by Baxter Creek Enterprises Inc.

P.O. Box 279

Millbrook, Ontario L0A 1G0

(705) 932-3700

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Printed by Northumberland Publishing, Cobourg, Ontario

A time for friends

It drives my daughter crazy! She thinks she has me in tow, on the way to the car and home, only to turn around and find that I'm lost again in the crowd, chatting happily with another friend, neighbour or familiar face. It happens all the time, but the peak aggravation period for her has been the past month. The season of Christmas concerts, plays and pageants provides particularly fertile opportunities for visiting, and I took full advantage of it!

This sense of community is a very special feeling. I know better now, after living in the area for over a dozen years, than to think I'm just going to 'pop' into the post office or the IGA. I can be fairly sure I'm going to bump into someone I haven't seen in weeks. Or I'll want to talk for a bit with a store owner or whoever is behind the counter. You can never predict just who you'll meet, but you can be sure there'll be smiles and friendly exchanges of the latest news and even a surprise or two. Just knowing that day-to-day chores like shopping are going to be sprinkled with these chance encounters makes me look forward to a trip into Millbrook.

Of course, it wasn't always like this. When I first arrived here with a toddler and another one on the way, and a spouse who was away on business more than he was at home, it was a lonely time. Thank goodness for the doctor; I think he was the only person with whom I had whole conversations! It wasn't long though before I could recognize and name pretty well every businessperson in town. Then it was just a matter of taking the plunge and showing up at a club meeting or a group activity of some kind. Being painfully shy, this took enormous effort on my part. It was the most worthwhile thing I have ever done.

Now I feel a great sense of pride and privilege, knowing a wonderful variety of folk who enrich my life and keep me forever growing in knowledge and understanding of the area and the world in which I live. Whether it be by joining a church community, turning up at a get-together of the Historical Society or the Garden Club, signing up for a recreation course, or sitting in on a home-and-school meeting, there is a door open where friendships can be founded and interests can be kindled.

So, to my daughter, I have to say; you'll just have to wait for me. As time goes on, I hope that she too will learn how satisfying it is to just stop and say hi to a member of this enormous extended family that we call community.



The next issue of **The Ripple** will be published on **Tuesday, January 31.** Deadline: **Monday, January 23.** Call **932-3700**

And the winners are...

What a bunch of Gingerbread Architects we have in our midst! I have long suspected that our community harbored some serious talent but, frankly, even I was surprised. The results of our First Annual Gingerbread House Competition were truly amazing.

The judging, competently handled by Bruce Lepper, was difficult, to say the least. With so many fabulous houses, it was really challenging to try to choose the winners. We were especially impressed with the children's entries, which were all wonderfully creative and well constructed. Any of you kids want to build an addition onto my house? (I mean my *real* house.)

Thank you to all who made the effort to enter, and I certainly hope you enjoyed demolishing your creations over the holiday season.

In the Children's Category the winners were:

- First Prize** - Jay Bendall
- Second Prize** - Benjamin Rowland
- Third Prize** - Katie Vanderwal
- Honourable Mentions** - Wes Denley, Zachary Bendall, and Jennifer and Katie Hayward.

In the Adult Category the winners were:

- First Prize** - Kay Beardwood
- Second Prize** - Johanna Denley

In the Businessperson's Challenge:

- First Prize** went to Victor Bulger Insurance Brokers Inc. for their spectacular St. Andrew's United Church, meticulously constructed by Claire Carrie.
- Second Prize** went to The Millbrook Deli for their beautiful Needler's Mill - complete with waterfall - produced by Cindy Thertell.

THE RIPPLE EFFECT

by Christine Diaz

Every Christmas season, Susan French and her family, like many others, share in the holiday spirit by way of a contribution to a food hamper. The Frenchs haven't lost that sense of goodwill, but this year their contribution took on a different form.

Susan and her family put together a good wishes package for a Canadian Forces peacekeeper stationed in Bosnia. Among the items included in the package were chocolates, Grey Cup news, toothpaste, gum, and a November 29 copy of The Ripple - our first issue.

Fran Lowry sent a copy of The Ripple to the family of Charlie Burrison in Harwood, Ontario. The late Mr. Burrison appeared in the photo of the original sod-turning for the Millbrook Medical Centre, seen on page 6.

Esther Tinney passed her copy of The Ripple to former Cavan resident Alice Nicholson who now lives in Peterborough.

Thanks to the support of our advertisers, The Ripple is mailed free of charge to Pontypool, Bethany, Cavan, Millbrook and South Monaghan. But to Australia?

Rita and Rob MacFarlane who have now returned to Australia took theirs with them, and placed their order for subsequent issues. Perhaps I'll deliver one of those myself!

We welcome letters from our readers on issues of local interest. Please address your letters to The Editor, The Ripple, P.O. Box 279, Millbrook, Ontario, L0A 1G0. All letters must bear the name, address, and daytime telephone number of the writer. The Ripple and Baxter Creek Enterprises Inc. reserve the right to edit all letters for length, grammar, clarity, and libel.



It wasn't an easy task to judge the Gingerbread Contest for artist Bruce Lepper, pictured here with the three first place winners. Claire Carrie's St. Andrew's United Church won the Business Category, Jay Bendall's cabin won the Children's Category, and Kay Beardwood's house was first among the adults.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Tax arrears a concern

by Neal Cathcart, Reeve

The Township of Cavan welcomes the opportunity to comment in The Ripple on a regular basis.

This New Year brings with it many challenges that must be addressed in the coming months. Early in 1995 the Council must address the problem of property tax arrears which, at the end of November 1994, were in excess of \$900,000. That figure in the first 15 days of December was reduced by \$123,000, leaving a balance which still causes concern.

The options that lie before the Township administration include the use of a collection agency, employing a bailiff to handle the account and, if appropriate, advising the mortgage company that in fact the taxes are in arrears.

None of these options appeal particularly to Council, but may prove to be the only alternative.

If your property taxes are falling behind, other methods of payment may be used besides the quarterly system in place. You may pay taxes by the month or in regular instalments convenient to you. However, in any event, your property taxes, which include education levies, must be paid. Inquiries are invited and should be directed to Hazel Armstrong, Treasurer, at the Cavan Municipal Offices.

Residents are also reminded that the Township of Cavan has a fire burning by-law which in fact means that open fires are only permitted for food preparation and warmth. All other fires are regulated by means of a fire permit (By-law 93-60). Open fires started without a fire permit could result in an alarm being received and fire prevention equipment arriving on your property without your knowledge. Such fires make the property owners liable for costs incurred plus overhead costs; a bill which could exceed \$1,000.

To avoid such embarrassment and costs, you are advised to secure a fire permit at \$20/yr. These may be purchased at the Millbrook Fire Station or, by prior arrangement, at the Mount Pleasant Fire Station. Call 932-2765 for additional information.

This space will be offered to each municipal council in turn, to give our elected representatives a chance to keep their electorate informed.

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Sample pieces on display at the Millbrook Deli - January 23 to 29

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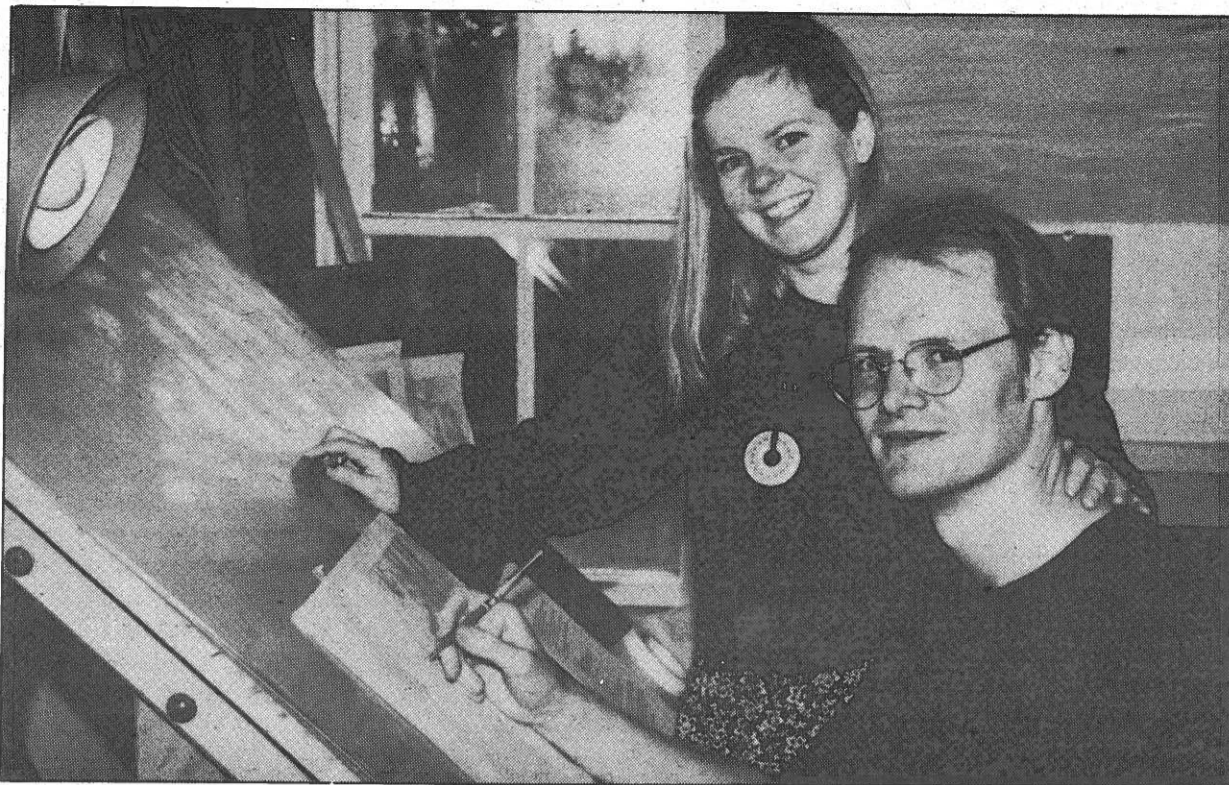
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Art and design is all the family for Esperanca Melo and husband Bill Slavin. A talented illustrator, Bill produced The Ripple's first two editorial cartoons.

Illustrator living in paradise

by Celia Hunter

On the fly leaf of a colourful Canadian children's book, you will read that the illustrator lives "in an old farmhouse on the edge of a village in Ontario".

Millbrook is that village, and Bill Slavin is the illustrator.

Bill and his wife Esperanca Melo are a familiar sight to Millbrook residents, he tall and lanky in his long black overcoat, and she petite and glowing with a zest for life and a sunshiny smile. Spurning their car for all errands within the village, they are almost a daily presence as they make the rounds of the post office and shops.

Bill and Esperanca are a partnership every way you look at it. The walls of their home display pen and ink sketches by Bill and watercolours by Esperanca. Pieces of Esperanca's sculpture and works in papier maché grace table tops, cabinets and walls. There are two artists at work here.

Bill has been drawing ever since he can remember, and has wanted to illustrate books for almost as long.

"My first commercial success was an anti-smoking in bed poster I did in Grade 3, which won first prize and paid me \$25," but, according to Bill this was just part of a great year, "Grade 3 was an important year, because it was also when I produced my first illustrated book, called Zok the Caveman."

Bill spent countless hours during his years at school in his hometown of Belleville, writing and illustrating his own books and creating comic strips and stories. He took his talents on to Sheridan College in Oakville where he studied Cartooning and Graphic Story Illustration, and from there looked for ways to work at what he wanted to do; illustrate children's books.

Bill spent a number of years working as art director/illustrator/layout artist for a small publishing house in the Ottawa Valley before moving back to Toronto. A stint working on illustrations for educational computer software filled the gap until the opportunity that Bill had been waiting for arrived. Kids Can Press contracted Bill to do the illustrations for Paulette Bourgeois' book *Too Many Chickens!* Since that time, Bill has illustrated more than a dozen children's books, both fiction and non-fiction, and has six works in progress to keep him busy.

Among the books illustrated by Bill are Brian MacFarlane's *Hockey: The Book for Kids* (Kids Can Press, 1990, revised 1994), *The Cat Came Back* (Kids Can Press, 1992) and *Rosie Backstage* by Amanda Lewis and Tim Wynne-Jones (Kids Can Press, 1994). Bill keeps up his contacts with his audience and does his

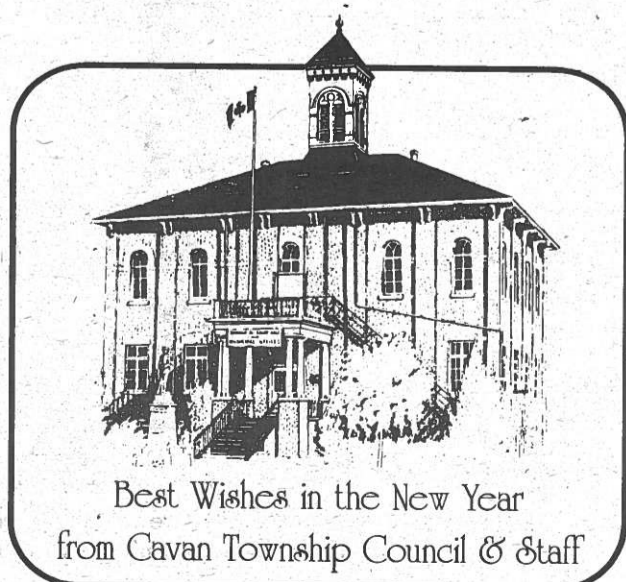
'market research' by visiting classrooms on a regular basis.

Not content to wait for someone to write the material that will go with what he really wants to draw, Bill has taken the necessary step and written the text for his next venture. Entitled *The Stone Lion*, the story is set in medieval Europe. Medieval history is a source of great interest for Bill. To research material for this book, Bill and Esperanca spent their holidays last year in a 12th century tower, owned by a professor at Trent, in a village wall on the Rhone in France.

Travel is a passion for this couple. They list off the various destinations of recent years; Guatamala, New Zealand, Italy, Spain and Portugal. Esperanca was born in the Azores, a group of islands in the mid Atlantic off Portugal. She came to Canada with her family at age 11 and eventually settled in Toronto. Esperanca trained as a graphic designer at George Brown College, and worked in advertising and corporate design for both Eatons and The Bay as well as for a designer from Great Britain. However, her interests are varied and her energy and curiosity led her through a three year course in animation at Sheridan College, and night courses in pottery, sculpture, water colour and film-making. Her beautifully crafted papier maché masks, bowls and monsters are evidence of an exuberant spirit and a love of form and colour.

Through a mutual friend, Bill and Esperanca's paths finally merged in Toronto. Esperanca's corporate work was finally replaced by design of another nature. She now formats and designs books for Kids Can Press. And not to be outdone by Bill as he strikes out in new directions with *The Stone Lion*, Esperanca has her first contract to illustrate a book on calligraphy with author Amanda Lewis.

Together in a sunny studio upstairs in their farmhouse, they work with pen and ink, water colours and Macintosh PowerPCs. They cross country ski from their front door. Business trips to Toronto make it necessary to get the car going, but otherwise, they are content with their daily walking tour of the shops in Millbrook. In his biographical handout, Bill says it best, "Today I am living in paradise in an old farmhouse on the edge of the village of Millbrook."



Best Wishes in the New Year
from Cavan Township Council & Staff

Do you have an event that you'd like included in the Community Calendar?

Phone 932-3700 or drop the information into The Ripple box at Knit 1 Purl 1



Long-time resident, Jean Burnham.

THE WAY WE WERE

School days were golden rule days

by Susan Sheen

If you were to ask a long-time Millbrook resident to describe Miss Jean Burnham, he or she might well recall the sight of Jean, surrounded by laughing, hopping, chattering children, one holding fast to each of her hands, as she walked each schoolday from her family's home on King Street to the Old School on the hill.

Jean's teaching career began in September, 1927 in a one room schoolhouse, with the outhouse out back, on the Zion 4th Line. Wilma Bates and her family live there now. About 16 children were enrolled in Grades 1 through 8. Until the snow came, Jean's father would drive her to school; then in winter, a hired man would drive her in a horse-drawn cutter. The school caretaker would make sure there was enough wood put in, but the children were responsible for getting the fire going, and someone would go across the road to get water out of a spring.

Each day began with the singing of God Save The King. Everyone would salute the flag, a psalm would be

read, the Lord's Prayer recited, and a Bible story told. Memory work included the names of the Old and New Testament books, some of the psalms, and the beatitudes.

Jean would start her lessons with the youngest class and then gradually work up to the oldest. Stanford Brown and Fred Brown stand out in her memory. When Fred was learning to read, he would run back and forth to her to show how much he knew.

The daily schedule would be classes, recess - with baseball as a popular pastime, classes, and then lunch. Everyone brought lunch from home. Then the routine continued; classes, recess and more classes until 4 p.m. A highlight of each year was the Christmas Concert in which all the children took a part.

What was Jean paid for her labours? Her first pay cheque arrived at Christmas, the second at Easter, and the third in June - total salary for 1927/28: \$900!

After teaching at the Zion Line school for two years, Jean moved to the Fallis Line school, now the home of Gordon and Anne Wilson. Jean taught here for six years. This school was a little larger and the outhouse was attached to the school building. However, water had to be brought from a neighbour's. Again there were about 16 children; memorable among them the Belch children, Marion, Tom, Bill, Martha, Lindsay and Natalie, Don and Edna McKnight, and Laverne Fallis' children, Bea, Nan and David. Even at that time, Tom Belch told Jean he wanted to be the best doctor he could be. He and several siblings went on into the medical profession.

All the children were anxious to learn and sometimes would stay in after school if they hadn't got all their work done. They weren't always angels though, and occasionally there would be a fight in the yard! The children walked to school in the snow and the cold. If it was too snowy, Jean would be invited to stay at someone's house on the Fallis Line. There would always be a pitcher of water and basin in the bedroom, and a chamber pot under the bed. One day Jean remembers Mr. Belch was driving his sleigh up the Tapley 1/4 Line when it upset, but luckily they were able to get it righted again and continued on their way.

It was quite an adjustment when Jean went to teach at the Old School in Millbrook. Classes were much larger, often with 40 children. One year she had 54 in her class! But children in those days did as they were told. Otherwise they got their hands slapped with a ruler - one smack for the first offence, and then up to five! Jean's basic rule was that "if you don't sit still and listen, then there's no point in being here".

She admits she worked hard, often not getting home until 6 p.m., but she enjoyed her 42 years of teaching. Jean laughs when she realizes that some of her pupils are now grandparents. Her pupils attest to the fact that she not only passed on knowledge, but also values, a sense of respect, and a love of learning. She is one of those teachers you remember - and thank - forever.

Donations add to local collection

The Millbrook and Cavan Historical Society has recently acquired a number of interesting additions to its fine collection. Geoff and Kathie Elton of Millbrook have donated a 1923 dog tag which belonged to Dr. Turner. They have also presented the Society with a letter seal which Alfred Leach, a former Millbrook pharmacist, used in his business.

Mary Sutherland also recently donated a Biltmore fedora bearing the name of Millbrook's Fowler's Mens Shop and a trophy presented to the Millbrook Golf Club. John and Pauline Lyons have generously donated several beautiful baby dresses once worn by Pauline herself. The Historical Society meets again in March.

Poster a tribute to built heritage

by Maureen Wideman
For a mere \$5, residents have the opportunity to purchase a delightful poster featuring sketches of seven historic houses in Millbrook.

The poster is being used as a fund-raiser, says Millbrook Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (MACAC) chairperson Jackie Tinson. The funds will be put towards the development of and research into a heritage district along King Street in Millbrook. Government cutbacks have virtually eliminated any funding for heritage projects.

The sketches featured on the poster are the work of prominent artist Louis Taylor. Buildings include the Old School, the Old Firehall and Needler's Mill, as well as examples of a variety of housing

styles found within Millbrook. The owners of the buildings paid for the artist's drawings which they now own. This helped offset the cost of the poster.

Local corporate sponsors include Calhoun's IGA, Voyageur Canoe, Village Bulk Foods, Olan's Hardware, Something Special Florist, John Tinney Motor Sales, Williams' Shell and Gerry Todd Farm Equipment. With such valuable support, MACAC is able to offer this tribute to the rich architectural heritage in the community for just \$5.

The poster can be purchased at the Millbrook Municipal Office or from MACAC members. Purchasing a poster aids the organization dedicated to preserving Millbrook's architectural heritage.

RECREATION ROUNDUP

By Maureen McElwain

Tree burn a blast

by Maureen McElwain

Now that the festive season is over, the Recreation Committee and the Fire Department are gearing up for the Second Annual Tree Burn and Chill Out. Fire Chief Rob has been making his list and checking it twice. I've

been looking into some added features for this year's event. When organizing an event on an annual basis, it doesn't take long to know what works and what doesn't.

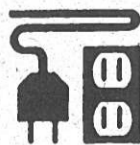
Aside from some minor problems (technical difficulties and frozen condiments) all those involved last year agreed that things went very well. Over 200 people attended. About 100 trees were burned. Hot dogs were eaten by the dozens. Hot chocolate, provided by the Millbrook Deli, was consumed in mass quantities. Donations of cinnamon buns from Yeast of Eden and popcorn from Mary Ridge were enjoyed by all. The Outdoor Rink was perfect for skating.

As the bonfire dwindled and the crowd began to leave, I realized that it was -30°C, and no one seemed to mind. This year's Tree Burn and Chill Out will be on Saturday, January 21, 7 p.m. at the Millbrook Fairgrounds.

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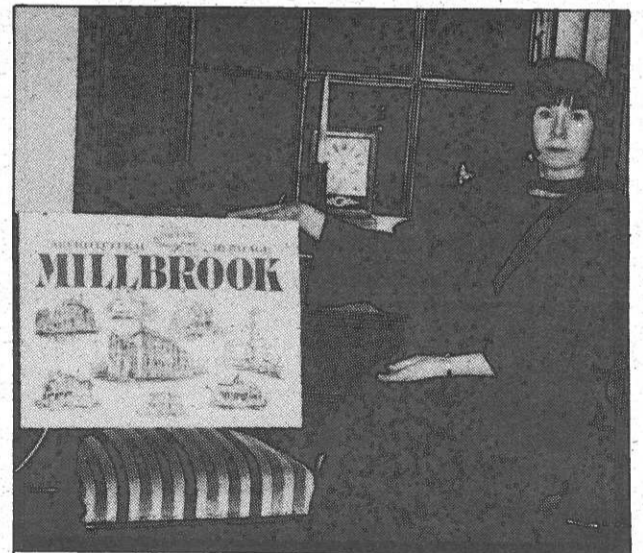
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MACAC Chair, Jackie Tinson, shows off the poster which features some historic buildings in the community. The poster sells for \$5.

STONE SOUP

By Evelyn Raab

Fridge cleaning not for the timid

I invite you to join me on a perilous journey. A journey so treacherous, through territory so utterly disgusting, that only the most intrepid adventurer would dare to make the attempt. Clearly, this is not for the lily livered. During the course of our travels, we must be prepared for any eventuality: toxic waste; bizarre life forms; horrifying biological mutations; aliens! There's no telling what terrors might lurk, unseen, in the darkest recesses of this uncharted region. Where, you ask, is this place? A place so frightening that the very name sends shivers down my spine? This fearsome journey will take us into (are you ready?) *my refrigerator* (AAAAAGH!). As I said, this is *definitely not for the lily livered*.

Like any proper expedition, we begin by assembling supplies and equipment. In this case, we are basically talking garbage bags. Gas masks might also come in handy, of course, and, probably, a baseball bat (I think there's something big moving in the vegetable crisper). Naturally, when we get to the site, it will be necessary to set up a field laboratory to analyze the samples we gather. For this we will need a Geiger counter, a carbon dating whatchamacallit, and an electron microscope. Although National Geographic was contacted with regards to funding this expedition, for some reason they declined to return my messages. Perhaps they found this whole thing too scary. I can't say that I blame them. Better stick to the Amazon jungle or Jupiter.

And so, we begin. Outfitted in the latest in high-tech protective gear (sweatshirt, rubber gloves, apron imprinted with the words "Graphic Chemical and Ink Co."), I carefully tug on the refrigerator door. It sticks slightly, and then creaks open to reveal The World Within. A mysterious foil-wrapped packet falls to the floor by my feet. Taking this as an omen, I peel it open. Cheese. I think. Or maybe a sandwich. Well, never mind. I set it aside for later analysis. Beginning with the door, I systematically peruse the contents. Inside the convenient Butter Keeper, I find a small dropper of veterinary eye medication, several cookies, and a hard boiled egg. No butter, of course. The cheese compartment has long since lost its door, and so we no longer use it for anything. I don't think we have ever actually put cheese in it, anyway. The egg holder holds, surprisingly, eggs - one of which is made out of rubber, left there as a practical joke which never fooled anyone. On the shelves which line the door there is a vast array of Stuff In Jars. Some of these have been there so long that I can't remember what they ever were, or from where they came. There are at least five different kinds of jam, which is stupid because all anyone in my house eats is strawberry. There is a half-empty jar of Chinese plum sauce, weirdly crystallized. There is a small jar of maraschino cherries. A jar of mango chutney, given to us as a gift, opened, and never used for anything. There is a small squirt bottle filled with Italian dressing, left over from the time the kids got into making submarine sandwiches. They haven't made one since August. A tube of Anchovy-Olive Paste, purchased by mistake, a jar of capers, a bottle of oyster sauce. Also, there is horseradish - two jars - why?

Moving on, we now face the real danger zone of my refrigerator: The Main Compartment. Adjusting my gas mask, and keeping that baseball bat nice and handy, I bravely grab the first thing I see - a yogurt container - and pry off the lid. Yogurt! What a pleasant surprise. I set this aside as a keeper. Next, I open that little rubbermaid thing which I know has been there for a very long time. I look inside. I'm not sure, but probably at one time it was spaghetti sauce. I scoop the contents out into the garbage bag and toss the container into the sink. This stuff is far too dangerous for the compost pile. It could kill wildlife. There's a container of leftover stew, a bowl of cereal (who put that there?), another yogurt container filled with Green Death (I toss the whole thing - it's radioactive), and the vegetable soup I made two weeks ago (OUT!). Also there are four more hard boiled eggs (who made all these hard boiled eggs?), some more cheese (green, with pink spots), and a package of cold cuts gone wild. I find the peanut butter sandwich that came back from school last week, the piece of chicken I thought had been eaten, some cold, naked spaghetti, and a jar full of a yellowish substance that I can't identify.

The vegetable crisper, alas, is a cruel joke. With lettuce

ten dollars a head it is depressing, indeed, to find half a head of romaine that has liquefied. The bean sprouts I was saving for a special moment have done the same. Cabbage is indestructible, and so it sits there in the drawer, wordlessly challenging me to do something with it. There are a couple of green peppers that have also survived, but not, unfortunately, the cucumber. With rubber-gloved hands, I attempt to pick it up. It disintegrates enroute to the bag. The cats flee the kitchen. I wish I could do the same.

Hours later, I find myself sitting at the kitchen table. There's a strange mixture of emotions at the end of an expedition such as this. The dangers now behind me, I am left with a feeling of relief (at least there was no rotten meatloaf) combined with melancholy (oh that poor lettuce...). The cabbage, rescued from oblivion, glares at me across the room. Beside it sits the leftover spaghetti, that pathetic bit of chicken, a green pepper, the oyster sauce. Sufficiently recovered, now, from my slimy encounter with the cucumber, I do believe I'm ready to make dinner. I cross the kitchen floor, and approach the leftovers lined up on the counter. Hmmm - what to do, what to do. Suddenly, the cabbage, sensing that the end is near, flings itself to the floor and attempts to escape. I block its path. I get out the wok, my mind made up. Refrigerator Cleanout Stir Fry it is. And the cabbage, I daresay, will be a splendid addition. Next week, maybe I'll do the freezer.

Refrigerator Cleanout Stir Fry

The ingredients for this highly variable dish should depend on what exactly you find in your fridge. The following recipe is just a guideline. no matter what you use, it'll work. Except for old meatloaf. Don't even try it.

- 1 cup of any kind of leftover meat, cut into thin strips
- 2 cups cooked spaghetti, or any cooked noodles
- 2 cups thinly shredded cabbage (HA - GOTCHA!)
- 1 cup thinly sliced or julienne carrots
- 1 onion, sliced into thin strips
- 1/2 cup sliced mushrooms
- 1 green pepper, cut into thin strips
- 1 can baby corn cobs (if you have any)
- 2 cups bean sprouts
- 3-4 tbsp. vegetable oil
- 2 tsp. soy sauce
- 2 tbsp. oyster sauce
- 1 tsp. sesame oil

◆ Before you do anything else, cut up all the ingredients you plan to use and arrange them artistically on a large platter. You won't have time to stop and chop once you begin cooking. Also, have ready the soy sauce, oyster sauce, and sesame oil. If you don't have oyster sauce or sesame oil, just leave them out and use some extra soy sauce.

◆ Heat the wok and, when hot, add the vegetable oil. Working quickly, add the vegetables to the wok - putting the ones in first that take the longest to cook. In the theoretical case above, you would add the onions and carrots first, and cook until wilted. Then add the peppers, the cabbage (HA) and the mushrooms and stir-fry for a couple of minutes. Next, throw in the corn cobs and the bean sprouts, and cook for another minute. Finally, add the bits of meat, the spaghetti, and all the seasonings - the soy sauce, the oyster sauce and the sesame oil. Toss it together until well mixed and very hot.

◆ Done.

◆ Makes two to four servings, depending on whether you've made anything else.

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On behalf of the Millbrook and District Lions Club, Rob Therrien presents turkey vouchers to Donna Greer, Millbrook Social Service Administrator.

Hampers assembled

Working together, Christmas hampers were assembled by the Social Service administrators for Cavan, Millbrook, North Monaghan and South Monaghan just before Christmas in the Council Chambers of Cavan Township Hall. Constable Rob Therrien, representing the Millbrook and District Lions Club, presented turkey vouchers for the hampers to Millbrook's Social Service administrator Donna

Greer. The Lions Club has donated vouchers for the past seven years. Truly a community effort, donations of food come from schools and churches in Millbrook, South Monaghan, North Monaghan and Cavan Townships, the Ladies' Auxiliary, Millbrook Legion Branch 402, the Cavan Women's Institute, Bailieboro Women's Institute and community youth groups. Fresh produce is donated by Strano Foods.

Anglican women cook up a storm

The Anglican Church Women of St. Thomas' Church, Millbrook have recently compiled a tempting and varied collection of favourite recipes in a volume called *Manna From Heaven*. The recipes have been donated by members of the Anglican Church congregation and you can be sure they all tried and tested! These are the prized soups and casseroles, cookies and squares that attract admirers begging for a copy of the recipe. Now, here they all are, conveniently sorted and carefully described. *Manna From Heaven* is available at *Knit 1 Purl 1*, Millbrook Farm Supply and Village Bulk Food.

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Mystery solved Spending the holidays with new-found family

by Maureen Wideman

What better way to spend the holidays than with a brother you've never met.

This was the case for Cavan's Olsen family. Mogens Olsen met his 43 year-old brother Flemming Paulsen who flew in from Denmark over Christmas.

It is a story worthy of the television show *Unsolved Mysteries*. Adopted as an infant, Flemming had been searching most of his adult life for his family. Using his connections as a police officer, he was able to determine the names of his birth parents and that he had one older brother John. He also found out that his family emigrated to Canada in the 1950's. This is where his search stalled. He was unable to find out anything more from Canadian authorities. It wasn't until he went to work for the United Nations in the former Yugoslavia that he met Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers and enlisted their help in his search.

In September last year, RCMP officer Ralph LaPierre sent a letter to Aage Olsen informing him that his son Flemming was looking for relatives. Flemming was shocked to learn that although his birth mother and elder brother John had both passed away, he had an additional two brothers and one sister as well as a host of nieces and nephews in Canada.

One of Flemming's first questions was why was he given away - the second child in this large family?

It happened at a time when the Olsens were in desperate circumstances. Aage was out of work and the only income being earned was what Mrs. Olsen could scrape together. Living in a tiny motel room with one small child and few resources, a newborn was more than the family could manage at that time and the baby was put up for adoption.

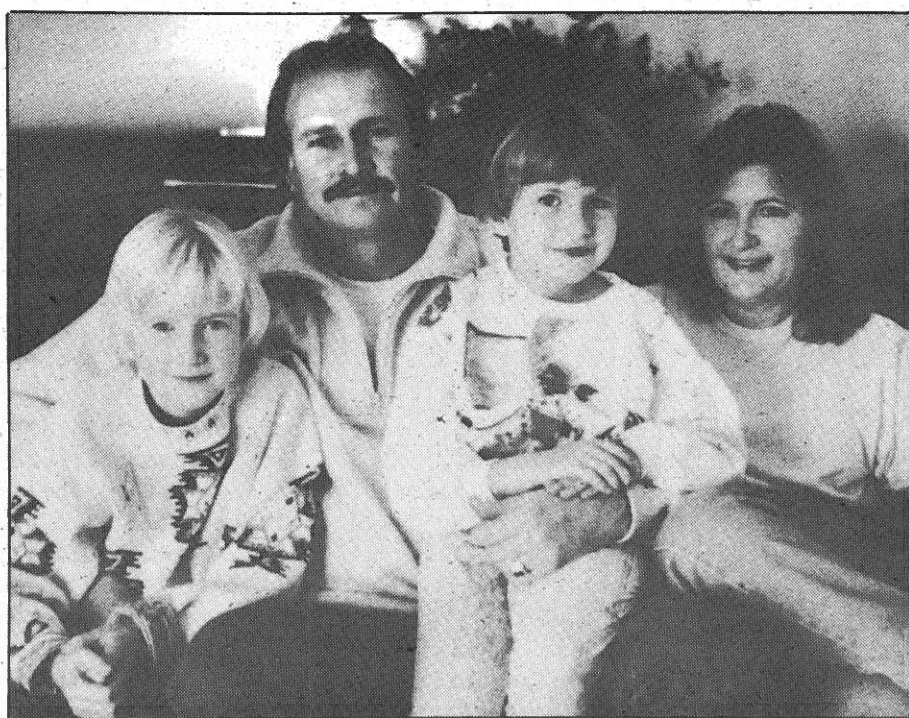
Flemming had a good childhood. He was raised as an only child by loving parents, both now deceased. His greatest wish was to spend a Christmas with brothers and sisters. He would finally get that wish at age 46.

Before he arrived in late December, younger brother Mogens said in an interview that it was going to feel odd meeting a complete stranger who is his brother.

"We may not even be able to communicate very well. I don't speak Danish, and he hardly speaks English." Mogens is also sorry his older brother John will not be at the reunion.

"We lost John in January, 1994, only to find out in September that we have another brother we've never met. He even looks a little like John," he said.

So Flemming got his life-long wish. Welcomed with open arms, he spent Christmas in Cavan with 13 brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews. He plans to return in the summer to spend more time with his new-found family.



Cavan's Olsen family - Julie, Mogens, Marie, and Wendy. Mogens met his older brother for the first time over the holidays.



Loretta Pompilio, art consultant.

Art consultant loves her work

by Celia Hunter

Several weeks ago, Outboard Marine officially opened its doors in Peterborough, and among those who helped get them ready for that Grand Opening was Millbrook Fine Art consultant Loretta Pompilio.

With less than two weeks to work in, Loretta consulted, sourced, framed and hung 40 works - oils, prints and silk screens, and all connected by one theme; the outboard motor. She did it, because Loretta knows how.

Loretta Pompilio is an elegant and vivacious participant in drumming circles and the Garden Club. She spends peaceful moments hooking rugs with a small group in Millbrook. For material, she is using shreds from old silk dresses, cashmere sweaters and executive suits. This material is a clue.

Loretta once graced the offices and corridors of the corporate world. In the downsizing crunch of a decade ago, the oil company for which she worked eliminated jobs. Loretta's was one of those. Husband Jim Avery was in turn a victim of a similar process. It seemed time to make changes, and moving to Millbrook was one of those.

As Jim adjusted to his new role at Sir Sanford Fleming College, Loretta was inspired to do something she'd never done before. The view through the picture

window onto Baxter Creek opened her eyes to possibilities, and Loretta took up a brush and began to paint. Using watercolours, Loretta focused on wildflowers and blooms. She taught herself technique, and made the happy discovery that she enjoyed creating her work and others enjoyed looking at it.

The corporate world was still a tug for Loretta; a world she knew and appreciated. It wasn't long before her always active mind worked out how to combine her new-found love of art with her seasoned expertise in the office towers of Toronto. She proposed to seven local artists that she represent them, and then Loretta went knocking on Toronto's doors. Doors opened. Loretta had successfully launched herself into a new career as an art consultant.

Since then, Loretta has developed her business extensively. Representing 50 artists, Loretta consults with both corporate and private clients. She is able to access catalogues and information on artists' works all across North America. Her business is largely successful because of her attention to detail. For Loretta, it is just part of the job to jump in the car and drive to Oakville to personally deliver and hang a framed poster. She will sit with her clients in their homes to discuss colour and style. She will hang a work on trial, to make sure the client likes the choice.

Loretta is having fun; she loves her work. She continues to paint, and has recently created an 'indoor garden' in her kitchen by artfully imitating grape vines and drying bouquets of herbs with paint and brushwork along the ceiling-high cabinets.

She and Jim can often be seen briskly walking around Millbrook, or if the season is right, cycling along the country roads. Jim too is an artist, and the house which also serves as a gallery is decorated with Jim's pen and ink drawings, pencil sketches, watercolours, photographs and sculptures, along with Loretta's floral designs and works by artists represented by Loretta. Her energy seems to be boundless as she takes on one more task; a series starting next month, featuring artists in the area.

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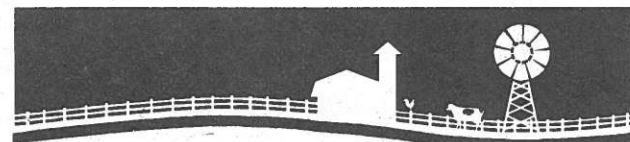
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Main Street in Millbrook, located at the west end of the village, was developed by Squire Snowden in an effort to move the commercial area of town closer to the train station. By 1880, it was evident his plan would not succeed.



EFP's effectively manage farm environments

Ontario is the only jurisdiction in the world with a farmer-led proactive environmental initiative, **The Farm Environmental Agenda and Environmental Farm Plans (EFPs)**.

The goal of the EFP program is to help each farmer develop a practical plan for operating their farm in a way that is environmentally responsible. Two workshops are presented to help farmers complete an environmental review of their farm (assessing the soils and their ability to offset, or increase, potential risks to the environment), to consider different solutions for potential problems they have identified, and to develop an Action Plan to solve or control these problems.

There are currently 2500 Ontario farmers who have attended EFP workshops and of these, 95 percent have indicated that they are worthwhile and would recommend them to their neighbours.

Workshops have been scheduled in Peterborough County for January 18 and 25, and February 2 and 9. To register or for further information, call Jim Walker, (705) 652-3962. For information on Victoria County workshops, call Gord Ritter, (705) 359-1522.

Who developed the EFPs? The idea for EFPs originated in the Ontario farm community. Farmers have been involved in every stage of developing EFPs, through the Ontario

Farm Environmental Coalition (the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Christian Farmers Federation of Ontario, AGCare and the Ontario Farm Animal Council).

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada has committed \$3.9 million of federal Green Plan funds over four years to deliver EFPs. An additional \$5.7 million is earmarked to deliver an incentive program, providing up to \$500 per farm business making positive changes which have been identified in their EFP Action Plan.

Support for the program also comes from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, the ministries of Environment and Energy and Natural Resources, Environment Canada, Agriculture Canada, the University of Guelph and conservation authorities.

How will EFPs benefit farm families? Farm families will take a broad look at the environment on their farm and identify areas where they are already effectively managing environmental concerns. Peer farmers experienced with farm environmental issues will review your EFP. Farm families will realize the economic benefits that may result from changes in management practices. They will also qualify for future government assistance programs of an environmental nature. The end result will be an individually-tailored action plan for improving environmental conditions.

OVER THE FENCE

By Charlene Rostkowski

Sheep seminar not ba-a-a-d!

"Best sheep seminar I've been to in ten years!"

"Stuff you can take home and really use!"

These were only a couple of the many favourable remarks I overheard while attending the sheep seminar held on December 8 in Napanee. The hall was filled to capacity with nearly 200 shepherds, veterinarians, and even several goat farmers present.

We were not disappointed. Dr. Mary Smith, internationally recognized small ruminant specialist from Cornell University, provided technical yet practical information about treatment and prevention of lamb hypothermia, weak lamb management, and pregnancy toxemia.

Dr. Smith has the ability to take technical research data and make sense out of it; i.e. just what to do when you have a weak lamb, it is -30°F outside, and you are snowed in with minimal resources at hand.

Dr. Gary Ricketts, nutritionist from the University of Illinois, had us all scrambling to jot down a few "Rickett's Rules of Thumb" regarding late gestation and lactation feeding.

Other speakers' topics included mastitis in sheep, practical culling criteria, ram selection and oestrus synchronization.

For a copy of the Conference proceedings if you were unable to attend, please contact Arlie at (519) 846-0965 or write to Dr. John Martin, OMAFRA, Wellington Place, R.R. 1, Fergus, N1M 2W3.

BETWEEN THE COVERS

The spud is more than just a potato

A series of thumbnail book reviews, featuring new acquisitions in the Cavan Millbrook South Monaghan Library collection

co-ordinated by Margot Loucks

Spud Sweetgrass by Brian Doyle

Brian Doyle is a retired teacher living in Ottawa and his latest book for children reflects his surroundings. Chip wagons and the dumping of grease in the Ottawa River are all part of this award-winning author's seventh novel. The hero, 'Spud' Sweetgrass is very funny as he tries to solve this ecological mystery. (Margot Loucks)

Bud the Spud by Stompin' Tom Connors, illustrated by Brenda Jones

By a strange coincidence, we have another new book with 'Spud' in the title. This is a junior picture book and features the lyrics of Stompin' Tom Connors' "Bud the Spud". The illustrations by Brenda Jones are humorous, colourful and detailed. (Margot Loucks)

On The Take; Crime, Corruption and Greed in the Mulroney Years by Stevie Cameron

I wouldn't say that Stevie Cameron's book, "On The Take; Crime, Corruption and Greed in the Mulroney Years" was on a par with Mary Shelley's classic novel "Frankenstein", but it's close. This is a true horror story and investigative journalism at its best. With amazing clarity, Cameron reports on the ultimate abuse of power from the Prime Minister's office through to the goon-intimidation tactics of our law enforcement agencies. This is a superb chronicle and a must read for every Canadian to ensure that future elected officials never again sink to this depth. (M. Burke)



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(705) 932-3030

Maplefest in the works

Despite the onset of winter, the Millbrook Business Association is thinking spring, and Millbrook Maplefest is in the works. If you or your community group would like to get involved, call Brian Bulger at 932-2437. Maplefest takes place the weekend after Easter.

MANE CONCERNS

By Richard Conrad D.V.M.

Rabies a danger for horses as well

by Rick Conrad, D.V.M.

Q. Should I vaccinate my horse against rabies?

A. Yes, a once yearly vaccination against the virus which causes rabies is essential. Rabies is fatal to horses and, more importantly, it is also contagious to humans should you come in contact with a horse which has rabies.

The large reservoir of this virus exists in the wildlife population, especially in skunks and foxes. Rabies is normally spread by bites from infected wildlife. Ontario is considered to have a high incidence of rabies in wildlife, thereby increasing the challenge to domestic animals.

The vaccine offers very high protection against the virus. All animals should be vaccinated once a year. Foals must be at least three months of age for their first vaccination in order to ensure adequate protection. Prior to three months of age they depend upon the maternal antibodies received from their mother's first milk or colostrum just after birth.

Q. Does pasture management play a key role in reducing the parasites or "worms" that my horse may contact?

A. Yes, pasture management can reduce the numbers of parasites that your horse comes in contact with. We speak in terms of "parasite load" on the land. It is a number relationship. All horses harbour worms and deworming them frequently is a must. However, the numbers of worms that each individual has varies and depends upon frequency of deworming and parasite challenge. The concentration of animals, i.e. more horses in a small area, obviously increases the egg count on the ground and increases the challenge. Strategies to be considered include deworming more often, timing your deworming prior to turnout onto pasture in the spring, deworming all new introductions to your pasture, rotating pastures, and harrowing manure piles to dessicate and kill the eggs. The coldest winter day does not kill worm eggs - they are more susceptible to drying and heat, as in the heat generated in a manure pile. Do not let horses have access to the manure pile and do not spread "fresh" manure onto the land. It should have been in a pile for at least 6 months prior to spreading to allow the heat generated within to kill the eggs. Generally speaking, we recommend deworming horses every two months, rotating dewormers each time.

Send your horse questions to Dr. Rick Conrad, c/o The Ripple and he'll answer them for you.

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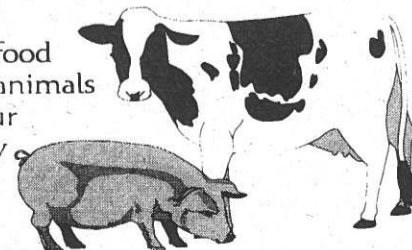
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Irish poet, Moya Cannon, is the Writer in Residence at Champlain College at Trent University.

Award winning Irish poet visits the area

By Maureen Wideman

I am to write a story on a visiting Irish poet. I have seen her a few times around the university. She is normal looking, not exotic or strange like so many artists - about the same age as myself with red hair and large, scanning eyes.

I read her book *Oar* to prepare for the interview, to gain some insight into this quiet, reflective person. Who is she?

Moya Cannon is an award winning Irish poet who is the Writer in Residence at Champlain College, Trent University. Although her poems have been published in journals for 10 years, *Oar* is her first collection of poetry. It is a small book, only 48 pages, quiet and unassuming like its author. Inside the cover, the words weave and flow, reflecting an intense attachment to land and place.

"Most of these poems are about the landscapes where I have been living for the last 10 years," she says in a soft, Irish lilt. "In Galway City I have access to two beautiful but very different areas, Connemara where the mountains are rugged, granite landscape and the Burren which is more of a moonscape with its bare, limestone hills."

The land and nature are major themes of her work. More than just describing the landscape, she looks at the relationships within the landscapes.

Sympathetic Vibration

"You never strike a note,
You always take the note."

Did it take her many
of her eighty quiet passionate years
to earn that knowledge,
or was it given.

Music, the dark tender secret of it,
is locked into the wood of every tree.
Yearly, it betrays its presence
in minute fistfuls of uncrumpling green.

No stroke or blade can release the music
which is salve to ease the world's wounds,
which tells and modulating, retells
the story of our own groping roots,
of the deep sky from which they retreat
and, in retreating, reach -
the tree's great symphony of leaf.

No stroke or blade can bring us this release,
but sometimes, where wilderness has not yet been
stilled,
hands, informed by years of patient love,
can come to know the hidden rhythms of the wood,

can touch bow to gut
and take note,
as the heart yields and yields,
and sings.

She describes herself as a dark-hearted child who grew up in a quiet, country area. She spent much of her time on her own, playing in the outdoors. Perhaps this has given her the ability to see a simple object and show it to

her readers in a way that haven't seen before. "Part of what I'm doing is expressing myself, but a larger part is communicating," she says.

Tree Stump

Thrown up
on the stones
in a bad November,
tree stump
returned from an exile
amongst fish and cormorants.

For a week or a year
the ocean has salted your huge wound,
rocks have battered off your bark,
but the shipworms haven't riddled you.

Alive or dead,
there is little left of the slow strength
that filled a sky
when summer followed winter
and wind threw down the seeds.

I drag off bladderwrack
to look at the years
and find, hugged hard in the wilderness of your
roots,
lumps of granite
that stunted
and informed your growth.

Moya is not revealed through an interview, but through her poetry.

While at Champlain, she has given a number of poetry readings and has run a poetry - writing workshop for students. Being at Trent has given her the time to catch up on her reading and create new poems. Moya is fascinated by place names. She came from Ireland to Peterborough to be surrounded by familiar names, like Cavan and Monaghan, in an unfamiliar landscape. This is the subject of one of her latest poems.

Moya will be returning to Ireland for six weeks over Christmas and will be back to finish her term at Trent which ends in April. She has recently been appointed editor of the Poetry Ireland Review the main outlet for new poetry in Ireland.

The Ripple
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Local artists making waves far from home

The Kamloops Art Gallery in British Columbia will feature a show throughout the month of January called 'George Raab - A 10 year retrospective'. A representative collection of the artist's work left Millbrook for Kamloops several weeks ago.

Raab has made his home in Millbrook for more than a dozen years, working in a studio above the barn. His subject matter has focused on the natural settings in both the immediate area and in places that offer particular inspiration such as the Queen Charlotte Islands.

Raab's preferred medium has been the intaglio print. In the past several years, Raab has added colour to the process, by hand colouring each print.

The Millbrook artist is no stranger to travel; his work has been shown across Canada and in the United States, and he was a guest in China three years ago for a tour and exhibition of his work. He has also travelled from Africa to the Arctic in his pursuit of subject matter and inspiration.

Raab teaches each year at the Haliburton School of Fine Arts and is a regular participant in the Buckhorn Wildlife Show and Sale.

Also making waves well beyond the reaches of the millpond is Washboard Hank and the Honkers. Hank, with his band, was recently the musical guest featured on CBC Radio's Radio Noon Christmas Open House. Hank makes his home in Mount Pleasant, and is a well known community personality. He takes part in various local events, and regularly ties in local stories and legends with his own unique brand of music. Popular with all ages, he can entertain the folks from the youngest tot right on up. Hank has been another of our local personalities featured on the CBC show, *On The Road Again*.

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The Cavan Bog is more than 1,200 hectares of protected forested wetland. It is home to many rare plants and animals. The true quaking bog section is about 130 hectares in the southeast corner.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR JANUARY 1995

Tuesday 3

Family Enrichment Centre at Bailieboro United Church - Mobile Outreach
10 a.m. to 12 noon

Public Skating at the arena - 4 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Cavan Council Meeting
Township Hall
7 p.m.

South Monaghan Council Meeting - Township Office
7:30 p.m.

Thursday 5

Public Skating at the arena - 3. to 4:30 p.m.
Free

Friday 6

Family Enrichment Centre at Cavan Community Hall - Mobile Outreach
10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Public Skating at the arena - 3 to 4:30 p.m.
Free

Saturday 7

Gymnastics Registration
Old Millbrook School
9 a.m. to 12 noon

Sunday 8

Public Skating at the arena - 2. to 2:50 p.m.
\$1/kids - \$1.50/adults

Monday 9

Back to school
across the board

Millbrook Council Meeting
Old Millbrook School
7:30 p.m.

Manvers Council Meeting
Manvers Township Hall
9:30 a.m.

Tuesday 10

Millbrook Play School
Millbrook Christian Assembly Church
\$1.50/week, \$5/month
9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Thursday 12

Public Skating at arena
Moms & tots - 10 a.m. to 12, and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Everyone - 3 to 4:30 p.m.
Free

Sunday 15

Public Skating at the arena - 2. to 2:50 p.m.
\$1/kids - \$1.50/adults

Tuesday 17

Family Enrichment Centre at Old Millbrook School - Mobile Outreach
10 a.m. to 12 noon

Judo Registration
Old Millbrook School
6 p.m.

Thursday 19

Public Skating at arena
Moms & tots - 10 a.m. to 12, and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Everyone - 3 to 4:30 p.m.
Free

Saturday 21

Tree Burn and Chill-Out
Outdoor family fun - skating refreshments, huge bonfire
Millbrook Fairgrounds
7 p.m.

Sunday 22

Public Skating at the arena - 2. to 2:50 p.m.
\$1/kids - \$1.50/adults

Monday 23

Millbrook Council Meeting
Old Millbrook School
7:30 p.m.

North Cavan Community School Association Meeting
North Cavan School
7 p.m.

Tuesday 24

Millbrook Play School
Millbrook Christian Assembly Church
\$1.50/week, \$5/month
9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday 25

Family Resources of Victoria County
at Bethany United Church - Mobile Outreach
10 a.m. to 12 noon

Thursday 26

Public Skating at arena
Moms & tots - 10 a.m. to 12, and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Everyone - 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Sunday 29

Public Skating at the arena - 2. to 2:50 p.m.
\$1/kids - \$1.50/adults

Tuesday 31

Millbrook Play School
Millbrook Christian Assembly Church
\$1.50/week, \$5/month
9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

To list an event in the Community Calendar
phone 932-3700 or
drop in box at Knit 1
Purl 1 - 30 King St. E.

Obituary

Mary Wood Patton, a valued former resident of Millbrook and Cavan, passed away on Sunday, December 11, 1994 at Ballycliffe Lodge Nursing Home in Ajax. Mary was the beloved wife of the late Herbert D. Patton, and the mother of Beverley and her husband Alan Jowitt of Ajax and George Patton and his wife Sheila of Frankford. She was grandmother to George Jowitt, Shane Patton and Lorna and her husband Mike Schenk, and great-grandmother to Kyle and Kurtis Schenk.

Mary is remembered fondly by many here in the area. Clayton Thexton, in his book of poetry, A Quill And A Quiet Stream, wrote "The poem 'Strength of the West' was written while attending Zion Public School, when Mary Wood-Patton was teaching. Her smile and advice

was, 'You should do some work on that and send it to Prairie Farmer!' It was not sent but her encouragement was inspiration enough".

Mary met Herbert Patton while she was teaching at the Zion School in 1931. They were married in 1933 at her home in Bensfort. She and Herbert farmed on the Zion 4th Line where Doris Hubbard currently lives. Mary herself planted the line of Norway Spruce that leads up to the farmhouse from the road.

In 1960, the Pattons moved to Millbrook, a few doors west of St. Andrew's. Mary was a very active member of the United Church both in Millbrook and in later years, in Ajax, and filled the role of kindergarten teacher at the Old Millbrook School for several years before joining Herbert in retirement. She was a kind and concerned neighbour to all those around her, welcoming visitors both young and older. She will be remembered by many here for her devotion to her family, her interest in the community and her faith in her Church.

Card of Thanks

The family of the late Ben Hogendoorn wish to express their heartfelt thank you to all their relatives, friends, neighbours and local group/sports organizations for their many acts of kindness during the recent loss of a dear husband and father. A special thanks to all who sent flowers, donations, food, cards, phone calls and prayers. Our sincerest gratitude to Reverend John Sloan for his services and the Millbrook OMHA Bantams' mothers for organizing and serving the lovely luncheon after the funeral service.

Many thanks,
Joan, Jason and Lee-anne Hogendoorn

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GREENSPACE

By Richard Miller

Caws and effect

A recent edition of the program *Venture* on CBC carried an article about the booming business of birds. Specialty shops catering to bird lovers are opening constantly and across the country they take in an enormous amount of money. One man said that his local bird store sold seven tons that's 14,000 pounds of bird seed last year! One store!

I have nothing against feeding the birds; I save my stale bread, muffins, bagels, etc, in a paper bag (so they won't go mouldy) and put it out on a clean platform close to bushes and trees. I also encourage shrubs which bear fruit that birds eat, and let some flowers go to seed (like purple coneflower). The bread I put out sparingly, like a treat, and the berries and flower seeds are the birds' natural food sources: I simply try to provide a little extra. Like most people I enjoy watching birds fluttering around the yard, gathering their own food and nest building materials, bathing and drinking in pond or puddle.

One problem I have is with the amount we are providing our feathered friends; we will make them fat and lazy. This will make them easy pickings for the multitude of cats we also keep, or for natural predators. And as more generations of birds become domesticated, they will lose natural instincts built up over millennia. Don't be silly, you say? Think about it. Some birds raise two or three families each year. If you feed the birds at your house over a ten-year period, that's ten generations. Ten generations ago for humans was the early 1600's. We have changed a lot physiologically since then as a species. I suggest that the birds will change too, as a

direct result of an over-abundance of high-quality food provided over a sustained period of time. And I won't even mention the very real possibility of genetic change caused by air and water pollution, to say nothing of the incredible range of chemicals used to grow the commercial bird seeds.

The real problem, as I see it, is two-fold: a very basic ignorance of the ripple effect (*see also the name of this paper*) on the part of an ever-growing population. The ripple effect is named after the phenomenon generated by throwing a pebble in a still pond: a series of disturbances ripple outward from the point of entry, growing larger and larger, though weaker and weaker, until they meet opposition at the shore. Or, in human terms, it's like when you tell a story to two different people, who in turn, tells the same story to two others (four, now), who each tell two more (eight people), and so on. Eventually the story gets back to you, only it's never exactly the same story, but a huge number of people have heard it. The point is, any action, performed enough, must have an effect. And as we are finding out it so many other ways, the constantly-increasing population, with its demands for goods and services (ie: energy and resources), is having a major impact on our quality of life and our expectations for the future.

You may think it's an outrageous leap from feeding the birds to problems of overpopulation and dwindling resources, but I say that the bird feeding is only an example of well-meaning but misguided thinking. There is nothing wrong with one, or even several, people,

feeding birds (or picking wildflowers, or chopping down trees, or hunting animals for their fur, or any of a zillion other issues we could think of), but when millions of people do it, there are bound to be repercussions.

We used to be told that bird feeders shouldn't be filled until February, when the natural food supply would be getting low, and the birds would have gone about their natural affairs for several months. Now, some people keep their feeders filled year round. I think that if the hundred-million dollars spent in Canada last year for bird food had been redirected to Rwanda, or Ethiopia, or Somalia, or Bosnia, the world would be a better place, and the birds wouldn't suffer in the least.

**Before you trash that artificial
Christmas tree or garland that has
seen better days, call Tracy
at 932-2182
she recycles these items into lovely
seasonal baskets.
Call Tracy, and you will be doing both
her and the environment a favour.**

UP THE CREEK

By Tony Murphy

No car quite like the first

How many of you remember your first car? What a silly question! Everybody remembers their first car. They may not remember their first sin or their first great meal, but everyone remembers their first car. I can recall a great many 'firsts' in my lifetime. I came from a place with very little, so 'first things' in my life were commonplace.

I can remember biting into my first banana, peach, fig, grape and orange...but then, there was that problem with Hitler we had to deal with before any of those things found their way to our little village in Ireland.

They were all wonderful experiences, to be sure...but none of them compared to the joy my first car gave me. I recall the newspaper ad. It read "Practically new, low mileage, hardly been driven. Former owner was an elderly lady who just drove to the supermarket and back. Must be seen to be appreciated."

It sounded like the car I had been looking for all my life. I rushed to get a glimpse of this prize.

They were certainly right about one thing. It had to be seen to be believed. My two car expert buddies who accompanied me were not the slightest bit impressed with what they saw.

The leather seats were worn to death which should have made me a little suspicious because the mileage indicator said otherwise. It had terminal rust and the headlights, as big as bank clocks, pointed up instead of down.

The trunk was big enough to sleep in and when the motor idled, it shook like a dog coming out of a lake. I didn't care. It was love at first sight and despite the warnings from my pals, I signed on the dotted line and took it home. My buddies wanted to take the streetcar home when the car picked up speed as I stepped on the brakes, but I convinced them to stay with the ship.

I bought my first car long before the advent of automobile certification so one took them 'as is'.

My 'as is' car needed a few things. A horn. It emitted a kind of death rattle when sounded. And a muffler - the coat hanger rasped against the floorboards when I went over a bump. The clutch had a mind of its own and

would allow the gears to clash and crunch when changing, and when the car reached a speed of 30 miles per hour it would slip into neutral unless held in gear until it got past 35 miles per hour.

It sounded a little hairy but I really loved that beast. I was also comforted by the fact that nobody on the face of this earth could steal it from me because they a) couldn't get it started, and b) they couldn't keep it running like I could.

I spent most of my time sitting in it as the car lay dead in the driveway, but it was my car and none of my friends in the old country could say they had a car of their own...Talk about the sin of pride... I had umpteen zillion pictures of me and that car sent to the old country. I'll bet there is still the odd one floating around my house somewhere.

It took me many hours of work and at least 500 pounds of body filler to put my old chariot back on the road. I will never forget the effect it had on the locals as I drove it for the first time. My next door neighbour stood and applauded. He told me later that he thought it was something I had bought to put flowers in.

I think the local dog population had the greatest surprise coming. They, who normally barked at anything moving, sort-of stood in silent respect as it chugged its way down the street. At least I think it was in silent respect. It could have been that the dogs were a lot smarter than I was and were hanging well back at a safe distance in case my old gunboat blew up in their faces. I sold my first car for fifty dollars more than I paid for it (if you exclude the thousand hours of labour and the sacks of body filler). The guy I sold it to said it was just the thing he was looking for. I didn't have the heart to ask what that 'thing' was.

I had visions of it being used in a film as a wreck'em car or being run off the road as a stunt car. Whatever the reason was, he bought it and my girlfriend's mother was delighted to see the last of it. Now she had only one thing to worry about when her daughter went out with me instead of two.

The Ballad of Baxter Brook by Clayton W. Thexton

It begins away back in the swamplands,
Where alders and cat-tails grow lush,
It's bordered by birch on the hillsides,
In the glens by tangles of bush.

It grows and takes on a sparkle,
Wending on through bramble and thorn
It drains the sweet damp from the wetlands,
And soon Baxter's Brook has been born!

As one who is destined to conquer,
Persistently flowing along,
With each mile it widens and deepens,
With each mile the sweeter its song!

Through meadows where cattle are grazing,
Through woodlands so dark and so dense,
The stout little stream only falters
When checked by wind-fall or stump fence!

A dark pool is formed at each falter,
The home of the shy rainbow trout,
All bordered by Jack-In-The-Pulpit,
With water plants floating about.

It flows bright and clear through the farmlands,
Where wheat and the red clover grow,
Where farmers respect its great bounty,
And nothing obstructs the stream's flow.

Then on to the edge of the Village,
Where logs hold it silent and still,
And by man its strength now is harnessed,
For power to run Needler's Mill.

Then on and away to the River,
The Otonabee flows just beyond,
And Baxter's Creek gives to the River
Its water, its sparkle, its song!