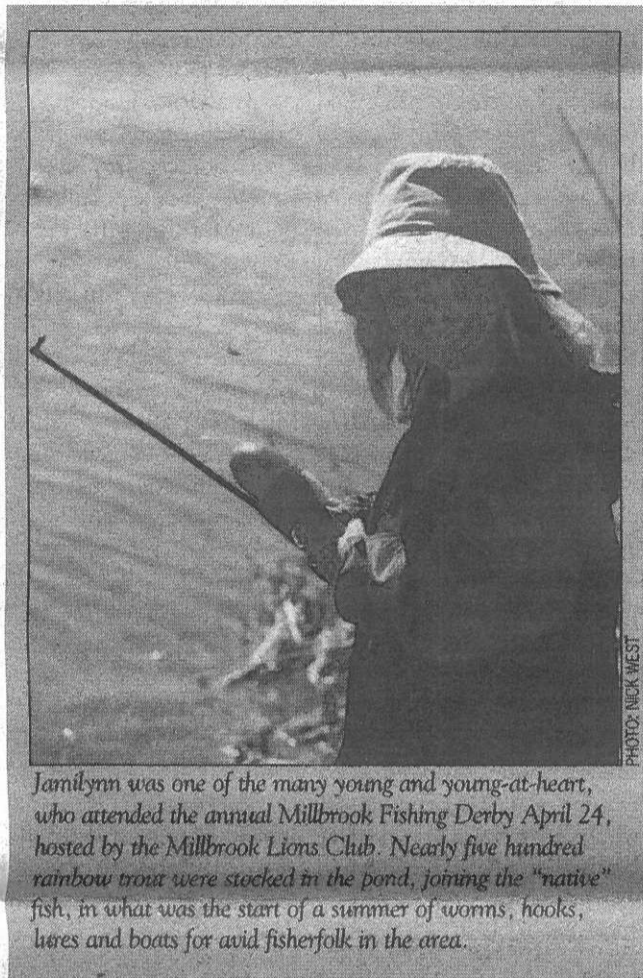


THE GREEN HILLS Gazette

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CELEBRATING LIFE IN CAVAN, MILLBROOK AND NORTH MONAGHAN



Jamilyn was one of the many young and young-at-heart, who attended the annual Millbrook Fishing Derby April 24, hosted by the Millbrook Lions Club. Nearly five hundred rainbow trout were stocked in the pond, joining the "native" fish, in what was the start of a summer of worms, hooks, lures and boats for avid fisherfolk in the area.

Speedway expansion "inhuman" say residents

By Michele Curran

As evidenced by the large number of concerned Smith and Emily Township along-side local area residents at the May 3 Council meeting, noise knows no boundaries.

Over 60 concerned citizens, upset with Peterborough Speedway owner Kim Wallace's plans to build a drag strip and a venue for music concerts, converged at Council chambers to express their concerns. Distribution of flyers to the surrounding areas, expressing opposition to the proposed expansion at Peterborough Speedway, occurred only a few short

Lesley Heighway of Hayes Line told Council the noise generated by car racing is now so loud that she has to turn the TV volume to its highest setting, in order to listen to programs.

hours before Council were to meet in chambers.

Lesley Heighway of Hayes Line told Council the noise generated by car racing at Peterborough Speedway is now so loud that she has to turn the TV volume to its highest setting, in order to listen to programs. Heighway told

Council she had already been to Emily Township, would be speaking with council members at Smith Township, and added that a petition against the Speedway was in the works.

Heighway then asked how noise levels were going to be controlled. She claimed the proposed drag

strip would have a negative impact on the area's economy, bringing down housing sales. "What we are talking about is an inhuman (sic) environment," added Heighway.

Acting Chair Deputy-Reeve Brian Squirrell gave permission to Cyril Landry of Parkhill Road to speak from the gallery, although he was not a delegate. (Reeve Neal Cathcart was attending another meeting and was unable to attend until 9:30 pm.) Landry said

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A gag order or a time saver?

By Michele Curran

Any number of delegations may be heard at Cavan-Millbrook-North Monaghan Council, for now.

A controversial by-law reducing the number of delegations permitted to speak to Council was deferred at the May 3 meeting. Specifically, the by-law would limit the number of delegations at full Council and Committee of the Whole meetings to four. Council agreed to Deputy-Reeve Brian Squirrell's suggestion of a reversal in the order of council business. At full Council meetings, staff reports would be heard first at 7:30, with 15-minute delegate presentations at 9 pm.

According to municipal clerk Gail Empey, this would be in keeping with a procedural by-law governing the structure and schedule of Council meetings. "In the procedural by-law, this

was always the case. It will probably be suggested that (of the 15-minute presentations), ten would be spent on the presentation, and five minutes for questions." Presentations were similarly limited at previous councils.

At the April 19 Committee Meeting of the Whole, Reeve Neal Cathcart said the proposed by-law would address concerns of staff that their business is not heard, due to a lack of time after delegations at Council meetings. "At a recent staff meeting, concerns were raised that we (council) don't get into their (staff) business." He added, "Since legal counsel is considered staff, if they have to wait it gets expensive."

In contrast, ratepayer Ken Greenberg saw the real reason behind the proposed by-law as "a blatant attempt to limit public input into the process of

the governance of our municipality."

Ratepayer Pauline Plumbe initially refused her allotted time as a delegate during the May 3 Council meeting, due to a phone call from the Reeve stating she would not be allowed to speak at Council until she publicly apologized for derogatory comments made to County Building Inspector, Doug Campbell. Allegedly, these comments were made outside the council chambers while Council was in closed session.

Before the meeting began, the Clerk handed Plumbe a letter advising her she could speak after all - yet nowhere in the body of the letter was an apology required. The letter also suggested that if Plumbe had concerns with staff she should address the Clerk with these, and not bring these forward in a public forum.

Plumbe did come forward when her name was called, and said the letter was in reference to taking Campbell to task for not telling the truth regarding concerns relating to Kawartha Downs. She then declared, "I owe no apology."

Councillor Brian Fallis supported the Reeve's comments, saying Council has to protect employees from abuse. While he felt Plumbe should not be allowed to speak until the issue was sorted out, he did admit it was difficult to keep a ratepayer from coming to council. Greenberg took issue with Council for initially denying Plumbe the chance to present her concerns in his presentation.

In a later conversation, Greenberg said, "The Reeve has no authority legally or morally to decide

who can or cannot speak at Council based on a ratepayer's relationship with a municipal employee. It is another attempt to silence the public."

In his own defense Doug Campbell said, "If ratepayer abuse is allowed to happen, it will continue to spread. Rules are rules. People can express their feelings properly and I didn't ask that Plumbe should be prevented from speaking at Council." It was during this conversation that Councillor Alex Ruth, visibly frustrated with Greenberg's verbal barbs, exclaimed, "It (Greenberg's presentations) is a form of harassment, totally obscene and a vendetta."

Squirrell did not agree with Ruth, stating that he felt Greenberg was only expressing his concerns and had every right to do so.

Ms. Empey said the changes in format for Council meetings will be tried on an experimental basis for a few months. ♣

INSIDE

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A game of tag on Medd's Mountain in Millbrook was just one of the many activities during last month's Earth Day celebrations. Other events included championship welly wanging, tree planting and song, dance and cake back at the Old School. Events were co-sponsored by the Millbrook Cavan Environmental Watch and CMNM Recreation.

Excessive noise causes hearing loss and psychological trauma

By Melanie Anderson

Excessive noise can not only damage or eliminate hearing - it can also cause mental illness, leading to crime.

R. Murray Schafer, a well-known composer and author with extensive research into the effects of noise, spoke to a sizable crowd on Noise Awareness Day April 21, at the Old Millbrook School. Over the past few years, he has become involved in sound environment issues.

With a growing number of people being concerned about hearing loss due to excessive noise, the New York League of the Hard of Hearing launched Noise Awareness Day a couple of years ago. Since that time, the number of organizations (world-wide) participating in Noise Awareness Day has grown tremendously. For Schafer, interest in the effects of noise began when he moved from Ontario to Vancouver. Due to a more moderate climate in British Columbia there is less insulation in buildings, and windows are usually single-paned - so a lot more noise comes into the home or workplace than here in Ontario.

While teaching at a university, Mr. Schafer wrote *The Book of Noise*, making investigation into noise and its effect on people's lives, and documenting concerns. He has recently updated the book, made it available for free at the Millbrook gathering.

The audience learned the level at which long-term exposure to noise can be harmful (85 decibels), and that many children's toys generate noise at an even higher level (100 decibels). We also learned there are two kinds of noise pollution, the first being physically damaging and the cause of hearing loss in most people.

The other form of noise pollution is psychological - a noise not loud enough to damage hearing but that irritates in some way - such as a distant chainsaw, a dog barking while you are trying to sleep, or somebody else's music that you are not particularly fond of. While this does not sound like a big deal, in the past few years there have been sixteen murders directly attributed to this form of noise pollution in Britain. In 16 separate cases, someone became

so enraged by a noise that they killed to make it cease.

According to Mr. Schafer, there has been some progress made in workplace noise pollution. Currently, most noise pollution problems in this part of the world are coming from recreational sources of noise, such as snowmobiles, jet-skis, and loud music.

And people seem to be enjoying the process of losing their hearing. Schafer believes an adjustment in public attitude towards noise is needed before great change can take place. Until then, he encourages everyone to call the Ministry of the Environment with complaints about noise, and to form groups (that are much more intimidating to any government than individuals) to lobby for stronger noise laws.

Before that happens a determination must be made as to the definition of noise, which does pose some problems in the creation of legislation to regulate it. Psychological noise pollution is next to impossible to measure, and it's difficult to know where to draw the line between one person's right to have, make, or listen to a noise, and another person's right to not have to listen to it. As for physically damaging

noise, expensive experts have to be brought in to determine the damaging effects of noise. These experts may still disagree on the definition of how much noise is too much noise once assessments are made.

As the western world has become industrialized, silence has gone from being described as golden, to being described as lonely, terrifying, or ominous. Perhaps a return to golden isn't a bad idea, considering the effects of noise on our hearing, and more insidiously, on our spirit and mental health. ♣

Still no checkered flag for Kawartha Downs

By Michele Curran

As the proposed Section 9 Certificate of Approval (COA), governing noise pollution control, been shelved indefinitely due to a litany of public complaints? Has Queen's Park given their approval to permit an exemption for Kawartha Downs Raceway to proceed without a Section 9 COA?

These spell-binding questions have been uppermost in the minds of area residents concerned about potential noise pollution from a proposed car racing operation at Kawartha Downs.

For now, at least, there have been some answers to these concerns. According to senior Ministry of the Environment (MOE) official Allan Oberholtzer, the answer to the first question is no. Proposed exemptions from the noise pollution regulations for race tracks and other amusements are still at the proposal stage, and a Section 9 COA is still a requirement.

A top official with the Approvals Branch of the MOE, Anna Javore, cor-

roborated Oberholtzer's statement regarding Section 9 COA. She then said she was unaware of this recent development regarding Kawartha Downs exemption from a Section 9 COA. She also added that before passing this exemption; the proposal would have had to cross her desk for approval.

With the Section 9 requirement still in place, how will this affect the building of a car race track at Kawartha Downs?

County Building Inspector, Doug Campbell, confirmed Oberholtzer's comments. Since the Section 9 COA still stands, he would not be issuing permits for the race track. County planner Karen Ellis acknowledged Kawartha Downs can still move dirt, but as of early May, the municipality has yet to sign a site plan agreement with the race track.

General Manager Dave Wood said as far as he knew, Section 9 was still a requirement. He added it would be impossible for him to even hazard a guess as to when the race track

would be up and running.

At the April 19 Committee of the Whole council meeting, a motion was passed that Council would not proceed with an operational agreement with Kawartha Downs, until receipt of satisfactory comments from an engineer regarding the technical specifications of mufflers for race cars.

In another motion, Squirrell recommended the Chief Building Inspector should not issue a building permit for Kawartha Downs until a Section-9 COA has been issued first. He added that a letter should be sent to the MOE asking them to state the Ministry's position on the Section 9 COA, regarding exemptions for amusement and car racing facilities.

Until May 14, the Township has requested public input into two proposed by-laws regarding a by-law to license places of business and amusement and a by-law to control noise.

So, for now, it would appear that the only thing moving around the race track is the horses. ♣

Speedway

Continued from page 1
he too was sick of the noise, and added that the area around where he lives sucks up noise like a vacuum cleaner. "I am not going to put up with it. Why can't the speedway be built in an (sparsely populated) area such as Mosport?" He then added, "Wallace has no right to disturb personal property or peace of mind."

Ratepayer Martin Pick asserted, "Wallace is only doing this because Council had approved the car race-track at Kawartha Downs."

Councillor Brian Fallis then explained to the crowd Council was looking into a new by-law to govern the operating hours of racetracks and amusements. The skeptical crowd remained unconvinced.

Robert Heather of Parkhill Drive asked about the status of Wallace's plans, vis a vis the planning process. Deputy-Reeve Squirrell replied that Wallace is currently proposing a site plan which would require a Section 9 (of the provincial Environmental Protection Act) certificate of approval. Squirrell

added he was against the proposed drag strip, adding that he felt a sense of hearing has become a luxury.

Heather said the drag strip would be more than just noise pollution - it would produce air pollution, such as oil and gas fumes coming from race cars. Dr. Craig Allison expressed concern not only about a potential increase in traffic, but wondered aloud how the proposed plans would affect local sewage and water facilities. Jeff Chalk, of Sherbrooke Street, said he moved to the area because it was a quiet, growing community. He could see the progression to a growing urban area, but added, "The speedway doesn't attract growth."

Grace Glass of Millbrook-Cavan Environmental Watch was the next delegate, and thanked Squirrell for attending the recent meeting on noise pollution given by world-renowned expert Murray Schafer. She then called on Council "to make the area a hospitable environment for its citizens."

Pauline Plumbe, a resident living near Peterborough Speedway,

also expressed outrage at the proposal. "We knew in 1978 when we bought our house, we knew we were buying noise, but this is going too far."

Councillor Dean Cutmore then said it was obvious by the concern shown at the meeting that there has to be a review of the process of the noise by-law. Councillor Fallis then made a motion asking the Clerk draft a letter of invitation to a high-ranking official of the Ministry of the Environment specializing in noise issues to attend a public meeting. An invitation to local Conservative MPPs Gary Stewart and Chris Hodgson was also suggested.

Sandy Campbell of Smith Township wanted to know the time frame for this meeting and Squirrell replied he would like it to be no later than the first week in June.

Later in the evening, the Deputy-Reeve asked municipal building inspector Doug Campbell if he could enforce the noise by-law. Campbell replied that it was impossible to enforce the noise by-law, and that enforcement would mean thousands of dollars in court costs. ♣

Announcement

Sandra and Brian Taylor want to thank their many loyal customers for their patronage and for the many friendships made since opening the flower shop in August of 1984.

Always Something Special, Florist and Gifts,
16 King St. East, Millbrook, has been purchased by Margaret and David Roberts as of April 1, 1999. Margaret and David will offer the same level of quality and service you have appreciated over the past fifteen years. We wish them every success in the future.

We are looking forward to our retirement as the golf and gardening season approaches.

Sincerely,

Sandra and Brian Taylor

BUSINESS PROFILE

Decadent cookies at your doorstep

By Debbie Clifford

If unbridled enthusiasm and a melt in your mouth cookie guarantees success, then Kelly Wilson's new business venture, The Cookie Shop is a red-hot winner.

A recent newcomer to the ranks of home-based entrepreneurs, Kelly has taken her dream of owning her own business and made it a reality with The Cookie Shop. Out of the recognition her home-baked cookies were generating, with rave reviews from family and friends, came the introduction of Macadamia Nut, Double Chocolate, Oatmeal-Raisin and that old favorite, Chocolate Chip to the public at large.

It was with great delight I took on the task of cookie critic for this report. However, not wanting to depend solely on my own taste buds, I brought the real cookie experts along, my sons Jonah and Nathan. Being very well acquainted with their brutal honesty regarding my own baking, I knew that if these cookies were to generate real excitement with them, Kelly was on to something big!

The moment of truth came. Kelly brought a sampling of all four varieties, hot from the oven and within minutes the test was over. After, many (I told you, only two cookies each!) it was evident that I needed to buy stock in this company. The next day after school was out, both children felt the need to "visit" Kelly's house. Needless to say, I quickly saw through this only too obvious ploy!

There are several important elements in the creation of the perfect cookie - taste, texture and size are crucial to success. Kelly combines all three, further enhanced by lovely packaging. Each cookie comes in its own plastic bag with a gold-coloured twist tie... kind of makes eating a cookie feel like a luxury indulgence!

After creating the cookie that no one could resist, Kelly also created "the service that no one would want to resist". Not only do you have the opportunity to buy cookies for yourself, but you also have the added option of ordering cookies personally delivered by Kelly to friends, co-workers,

After creating the cookie that no one could resist, Kelly also created "the service that no one would want to resist".

spouses, boyfriends, and even to your worst enemy. (What better way to patch up that argument over whose dog dug up those prize-winning roses!) Kelly calls this "a decadent alternative to traditional gifts". So far, she isn't doing any singing with the deliveries, but this option could be a possibility after a few voice lessons. There are also different options with deliveries - while the cookies on their own are quite a treat, an

adorable stuffed bear in a variety of colours can accompany them to the "gifted" person.

To get the word out about her business venture, Kelly is becoming a regular at the various craft shows in the area. Recently, her cookies were a sold-out success at the Millbrook Craft Show held during Maplefest. She will be a newcomer to the weekly Millbrook Farmers Market - a terrific opportunity for sampling all flavours and finding your personal favorite. As time goes on, Kelly envisions a lovely cafe, where her specialty cookies team up with exotic beverages to create a cozy atmosphere for chatting with friends.

The next time you are hit by an undeniable cookie craving, look no further than your local telephone listings, and give The Cookie Shop a call at 932-4048. If you get a busy signal, that's just one more dozen, hot from the oven! ♣

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1998 Ford Windstar GL

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98 Mercury Sable GS

48 mo. lease @ \$263.44 + taxes. Lease based on \$1,500 down or trade OAC plus 1st, security and taxes, 25,000 km per year. 3.0 L, V-6, air, power windows/locks, tilt, speed control, power driver's seat, alloy wheels, 5-star safety.

97 Ford F-150 XL

Regular Cab Pickup 4 x 2
48 mo. lease @ \$295.00 + taxes. Lease based on \$1,500 down or trade, OAC plus 1st, security and taxes, 25,000 km per year. XL package, 4.2 L, V-6, 5-speed, am-fm cassette.

98 Ford Contour SE

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EDITORIAL

Homeless at our door

A decent provision for the poor is the true test of civilization - Samuel Johnson

Sometimes it's a disaster to be number one. In 1999, Peterborough County has the highest levels of homelessness in the province, higher than Toronto.

In 1987, one out of seven children were living in poverty. Now there's 1 in 5.

Cuts to welfare further exacerbate the situation, and while it seems there are less on welfare rolls, many now have no supportive financial supplement to sustain themselves and their families - they're still out there, but do not have access to welfare or any other financial assistance. Now Ontario has the highest rate of child poverty in the country.

We have a higher than average rate of unemployment in Peterborough County.

Kawartha Food Share (including Millbrook and District Food Share) provides food for 977 families per month.

4,590 families live on less than the poverty line in income in the City/County. Many of these are one rent cheque away from being homeless, and spend well over 50% of their income on housing.

I didn't make these stats up - they come from a recent seminar on homelessness and poverty I attended, organized by the Peterborough Social Planning Council. How is this horrible situation perpetuated in our society?

The sad conclusion I have come to is that the further marginalization and victimization of those who are economically-disadvantaged is due to the irresponsible, self-focused attitudes that direct our political and social decisions. Simply put, we care more about protecting our own welfare than considering the impact of our decisions and so on on the collective health of our communities.

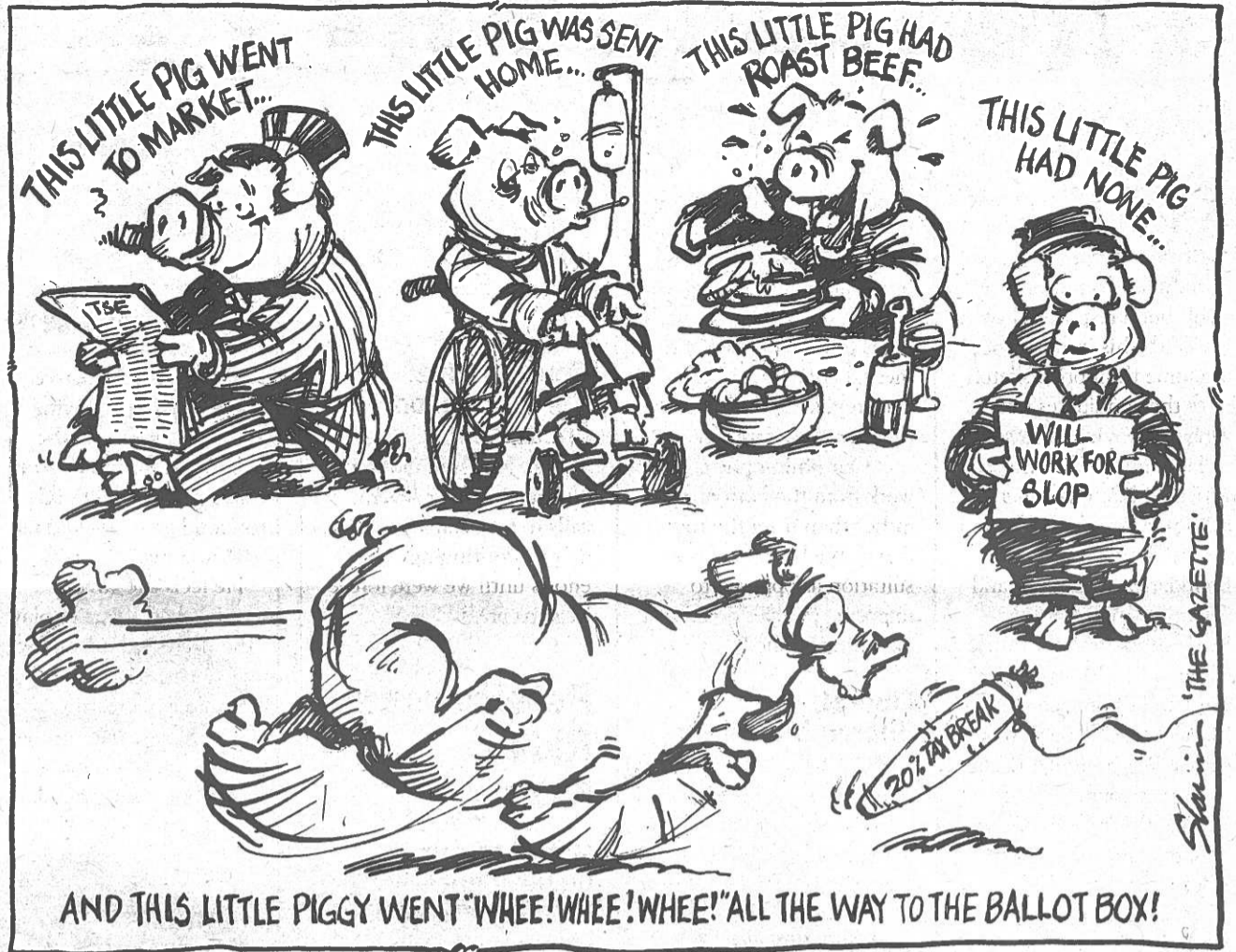
In this society, we have compartmentalized "the poor", "the welfare bum", "the disobedient teenager", and the "loose-morals-single mom". The worst thing I heard recently was that people on welfare, and particularly the many young adults living on the economic margins were in those situations because they chose them. Since when do we blame the victim for their misery?

I remember being at a meeting where people said they were concerned about the homeless teenagers on the street in Toronto, and wanted to know what they could do to help. At another meeting, others wanted to know what they could do about hunger in our community. Most of them had voted for a government that, through its policies toward welfare and the socially and economically marginalized, contributed to OR CAUSED the problem.

Make no mistake. When we deny support to those who most need it, our society will suffer. Where do you think crime, family breakdown, and other ills we decry come from? Unemployment, loss of income, be that from welfare or a job, can lead to all sorts of dysfunction in a family.

Basically, these very people who expressed concern about "the needy" voted for a regime that marginalized the very people they wanted to help. In short, it is a case of dangerous ignorance — not knowing or caring who they voted for, or what the party stood for. As someone else aptly put it, what's happened in Ontario is like someone going in for treatment for a mole in their foot, ending up with their leg amputated. The same doctor turns around and says, "Well, now you can't walk, here's some crutches. And by the way, you didn't need your leg amputated in the first place. Sorry!"

We are not any different from the homeless fellow on the sidewalk, or the teenager who is "couch



surfing" from house to house to escape an abusive parent. We are just more lucky. We are, for the grace of God, able to somehow support ourselves because we have jobs, an education, or combined resources to make our families work. It can all be taken away in a twinkling.

Don't just take the political parties' high-gloss and carefully crafted spin-doctored propaganda at face value. Take the time to REALLY learn what each party's record and stance is on support of the most vulnerable in our society. Tax breaks sound great, but at what cost, and are they really appreciable to anyone? What about these jobs that were supposedly created — are they long-term and secure? or are they paying minimum wage that no one can live on? Check out the real statistics — apparently welfare rolls have greatly reduced — but where did those on welfare go? Did they get jobs? or are they out there without any source of income, with their children starving? What the propaganda says and what real hard data says are often completely different! ♣


People who are much too sensitive to demand of cripples that they run races ask of the poor that they get up and act just like everyone else in society.
— Michael Harrington, *The Other America*

NEXT DEADLINE

Deadlines for the June 17 issue, are as follows:

Monday, June 7 — advertising deadline

Monday, May 31 — editorial copy deadline

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Letter to the Editor
Ontario Conservatives: saying this, doing that

In Ontario, we have just suffered through four years of a government moving too fast and too recklessly, on many issues.

The Conservatives said with school reforms, class sizes would be capped at 25 students. I checked with teachers at two different elementary schools... a grade 5 class with 35 students and a junior kindergarten with 31, including several special needs students and no assistant, is not only unproductive but unsafe.

Last year, in the middle of negotiations with teachers on a work-to-rule campaign, school boards were given less than three months to decide which schools in their district were to close. These same school boards had just recently been amalgamated with a reduction of the number of trustees.

The Conservatives said that property taxes would not rise as a result of downloading to the municipalities. New tax bills were drawn up, following the government's guidelines, and when commercial taxes skyrocketed, the government said "oops", changed the rules and told the municipalities to do it again. As a result, many commercial tax bills are still unknown.

During the last election, the Conservatives said there would be no reduction of health services. Four years later, 45 hospitals are closed or soon to be closed, including the one I work in. There are staff on stress leaves, long waits for services of all kinds, including emergency and cancer treatments. Nurses are leaving to work in the U.S. Even after the government recently announced increased funding for nursing, a nurse friend received no response locally to her quest for a position, and just two days after applying at a (hospital) in the U.S., landed a full-time job.

The Conservatives said they would increase funding to the disabled. In fact, they have cut 20 million dollars of funding to the disabled.

Do not believe the multi-million dollar ad campaign you see on TV. What the Conservatives say is happening in Ontario and the reality are not the same. Just ask a teacher, health care worker or social worker on the front lines. This has been a tough four years, created by a mean-spirited Conservative government. Big business and the banks have flourished, while the business of people has struggled to meet the increasing needs of society.

Joanne Rowland
RR #1,
Fraserville, Ontario

ONTARIO ELECTION '99

In the interest of keeping our readers well-informed, here is what (most of) the candidates had to say in answer to a few simple questions...

We at *The Gazette* believe voting for any level of government is not only a right, but a responsibility.

With this in mind, here are some thumbnail sketches of the candidates running for provincial election in Haliburton-Victoria-Brock and Peterborough ridings. Since there's been a recent change in election boundaries, Millbrook and Cavan are now part of Haliburton-Victoria-Brock, while North Monaghan ward and Otonabee-South Monaghan continue to be part of Peterborough riding.

We encourage you to attend all-candidates' meetings, to call campaign offices, and ask questions about local and provincial issues. Don't take the advertising of any party as the gospel truth! Phones have now been connected with campaign offices, numbers available through information.

See you at the polls!

Haliburton-Victoria-Brock Riding

NDP: Rick Denyer

"If you want change, then vote NDP. We are the only true alternative, because the policies of the PCs and the Liberals are almost identical," NDP candidate Rick Denyer asserts.

Mr. Denyer has been extensively involved with community affairs, including hospital and children's services boards, volunteer fire-fighting, and the Lindsay and District Labour Council.

On homelessness, Denyer points out that the Harris government has deepened the crisis by reducing social services, cutting social benefits, and eliminating rent controls. "Harris blames the victims...Our social programs will be funded by revenue gained from removing recent tax cuts for people earning over \$80,000 a year."

Denyer supports the NDP plan to institute a patients' Bill of Rights to improve emergency services at hospitals. He hopes to ease unemployment and provide more education opportunities, through reduction of university/college tuition fees, repealing of Bill 160, restoration of worker protection laws and putting priority on "family supporting jobs rather than corporate profits."

Mr. Denyer recognizes the potential hazardous effects of noise pollution from car racing at Kawartha Downs, and cites his party's plans to hire 500 environmental enforcement officers, replacing those cut by the Harris government.

"Our philosophy is to work from the bottom up, rather than from the top down. We believe in consultation as opposed to imposing policies on an unwilling public."

Liberal: Sharon McCrae

"The Liberals are very concerned about the well-being of our youth," former teacher Sharon McCrae emphasized.

This concern for youth, and everyone else, translates into a commitment to restore funding for education and health care. Of course, other key issues of this election include what she called "wasted money, and debt created by the present government." McCrae and her party would work to improve on job creation in the province.

In reference to local issues, McCrae said she would work with ratepayers on noise issues. Homelessness and poverty are issues about which she is passionate - "Everyone has the right to housing. We need to make sure people have food to eat by taking from the rich to give to the poor."

On downloading, Ms. McCrae said she is very concerned about possible effects on health care in the community. She would work with her party to ensure seamlessness in services, for example, ambulance service.

McCrae was the only candidate interviewed with a concrete commitment to spending time in this part of the riding - she will set up pilot offices in each community, and rotate

between these if elected, to "hear people's concerns first hand," and not just as a figure head at social functions.

Progressive Conservative: Chris Hodgson (incumbent)

Mr. Hodgson did not return any of our several calls to his campaign office, despite continuing our efforts until we were forced to go to press.

Peterborough Riding

Progressive Conservative: Gary Stewart (incumbent)

Gary Stewart stands by his government's record, and feels they have achieved their goal of economic recovery and deficit reduction.

The Peterborough riding incumbent is focusing on the PC party's main platform areas, including further strengthening of the economy, health care issues, and further changes to the welfare system. He comes from a 13-year career in local municipal politics.

"The economy must remain strong, and we have to build on our improvements so far so we can pay for our target areas of health care, education, and community safety." Locally, Stewart is supportive of a possible new hospital, renovations to the current hospital organizations in Peterborough, or a combination of both, depending on the best option selected by the community. He would like to see Highway 7, through Havelock, made more safe for drivers.

On homelessness, Stewart said, "The province

is addressing homelessness through doing studies on affordable housing. The responsibility for this will be transferred to the municipalities, where this can be dealt with more effectively. We are looking at paying for shelter directly to the landlord, so we can be sure he gets paid. Older buildings could be renovated for social housing."

He feels the government has had a part to play in the decreased unemployment statistics in Peterborough, creating 540,000 jobs to date in the province. Stewart cites the Rural Jobs Strategy Fund and an expanded youth employment programme as part of the successful job creation process.

Regarding welfare, Stewart said the government has increased day care, breakfast programs, health programmes for children and babies, and literacy training. He added that the government is committed to ensure those on welfare "get the treatment they need," referring to proposed mandatory drug testing and treatment for welfare recipients.

"We're on track with what we said we'd do."

NDP: Dave Nickle

NDP candidate Dave Nickle says his party's priorities are health care, education, and social services, as well as deficit and unemployment reduction.

"We need to stop the Americanization and privatization of health care, and look at long-term and home care services." Nickle says the area may or may not need a new hospital - it is up to the community to decide. "We can't focus just on bricks and mortar of a

hospital - or else we'll forget the other issues, such as delivery of health care."

While he agrees a reform of the education system was needed (especially as past OSSTF president), reforms were not well-planned or based on solid research, and the result has meant chaos for students, teachers and school boards. "We need to restore funding to our children's education, scrap Bill 160, and restore the ability of trustees to raise up to 10% for local needs. This insane funding formula (currently) is based on the space a student takes up, not on their actual learning needs. Nickle says standardized tests will only encourage memorization of facts, not true learning.

"We are very concerned that the Tories have taken a war on poverty and perverted it into a war on the poor." The NDP is committed to "getting a roof over people's heads", and to undoing some of the "damage" done by slashing of welfare.

Nickle says an NDP government would achieve a total deficit reduction. "If there had been no 30% tax cut, we would not have a deficit today! The Harris government is still using deficit financing."

Liberal: Jeff Leal

Jeff Leal has been involved in politics for 14 years, including a long stint with City of Peterborough Council.

Key issues in this election for Leal are health care and education. "I would like to see the provincial government look after land ambulance services." He has spoken out in favour of

a new hospital in Peterborough.

Leal wants to stop the "disastrous downloading" of provincial services onto local property taxes, and would like to see a new property tax class for small retail properties instituted. The latter measure would ensure corner stores would no longer be taxed at the same rate as bank towers.

"I want people to know Peterborough is open for business," Leal said. He is an advocate of "big-box stores" within the local business economy.

Regarding local issues, Mr. Leal would look to the Ministry of the Environment for assistance with the noise issue at Kawartha Downs and Peterborough Speedway, and would listen carefully to all viewpoints. Local residents have the right to make their views known, and be heard. "There has to be a balance between economic progress (development) and quality of life."

Renovation of old homes for affordable housing, provision of a new children's benefit, and incentives for private companies to build affordable housing will help with the homelessness crisis in Peterborough County. (Leal is involved in the Peterborough Housing Resource Centre, an organization to help people find affordable housing.)

In reference to downloading, he believes there is no such thing as revenue neutrality, but asserts local decisions are the best decisions.

The Green Hills Gazette thanks contributors Dan Smith, Ken Greenberg, and Michele Curran for interviewing, gathering information and writing these reports.

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150th Millbrook Fair opens June 11

Reflecting the past, inspiring the future in 1999, this year's anniversary extravaganza will feature a variety of new events and activities

The past, present and future will come together for the 150th Millbrook Fair, June 11-13.

This year's anniversary extravaganza will feature a variety of new events and activities, in addition to the "tried and true" — with a focus on the progress of the fair and community to the present-day. Organizers have been working hard to provide enticing events throughout the year leading up to the fair. Their goal was to tantalize fair goers with greater things to come, including a toy and doll show, and quilt exhibition at Maplefest.

On Fri. June 11, Heritage Day begins at 10 am at the Fairgrounds, featuring historical demonstrations by Hutchinson House (Peterborough) and Lang Pioneer Village. Wrapped into these first-ever opportunities to learn more about local history will be activities for students, as part of Children's Day. A special treat will be a preview of the 4th Line Theatre's "Fair Play" at 1 pm. Seniors will be admitted after 10 am, with admission being a donation.

The foray into the past continues Friday evening, with a truck and tractor pull featuring vintage tractor and 4 x 4 classes at 7 pm. The midway, a long-time tradition at the fair, starts up concurrently.

On Sat. June 12, the Open Horse Show commences at 10 am, as does the Beef Show and 4-H, the Heavy Horse Show, and the Light Horse Show. The parade, marking the "official" opening of the fair, starts at 11 am, and will make its way to the fairgrounds via King Street with lots of floats and groups involved. Opening

ceremonies will be the centre of attention at 12 noon, followed by the roadster harness competition at 1 pm. A pony pull will be held at 4 pm.

The time-honoured Homecraft Section will be on display from noon onward, throughout the fair, as will school exhibits. Look for "vintage" crafts from days gone by to be included in this special edition of the fair. A farm animal display will delight small fry, and be on the lookout for lots of history in action around the fairgrounds between 11 am and 6 pm!

Truck and tractor pull competitions continue at 7 pm, with superstock trucks, farm tractors and highway trucks featured.

On Sun. June 13, the fair moves into "inspiring the future", with an array of livestock, music and baking events, as well as the perennial favourite, the demolition derby. The Hunter, Classic Tractor, Poultry, Pet, Heavy Horse, Goat and Youth Horse Shows will start at various times from 10 am

through to close of these events at 5 pm. There's a bandstand on the green offering terrific live music for fairgoers, and a prize-winning baking auction at 1:30 pm - get there early for best selection! A draw will be held for the commemorative quilt, and original painting "The Spirit of the Fair" by local artist Emma Hesse at 2 pm. To round out the day, why not enjoy the thrills and spills of the demolition derby at 3 pm?

Admission to the fair is \$5 adults, \$3 seniors, \$2 children, and parking is \$3. Gate opening times are: seniors - 10 am Friday, general admission - Friday 5 pm, Saturday and Sunday 9 am. For more information about the 150th Fair, contact Bruce Denley, President, 743-3130 or Diane Armstrong, Secretary, 745-5687.

See you at the Fair! ♣
A special note to those who may be able to loan the Agricultural Society old prize ribbons, trophies and awards - these can still be loaned by calling Holly Hall at 932-2245.

Fair Ambassador contestants wanted — ASAP!

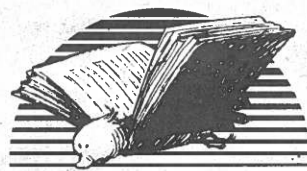
The Millbrook Agricultural Society is looking for young people, male or female, who would be interested in representing the Millbrook Fair at future events in 1999-2000.

Anyone interested must act quickly! The deadline for applications is May 22, so applicants must get in touch with either Kathy Carl (932-5240) or Theresa Walton (932-2612).

Competitors must be

between 18 and 23 by August 1999, and be a resident of the Fair district for at least the past six months. An interest in the Fair and the wider community would also be important, but agricultural experience is not necessary.

The Society is also looking for sponsors for these young people, which means a financial sponsorship, with the young person representing your business, organization or school. ♣



RANDOM SAMPLING

By Margaret Monis

Well, it's happened again. Much to everyone's horror and disbelief, there has been yet another heinous slaughter of school children down in the States, only this time a teenager in Alberta saw the shooting as his cue to go after some of his own classmates with a gun. Man, it makes you wonder if it will ever end.

So now, of course, the media are having a feeding frenzy. Why did it happen? What can we do to prevent another occurrence in the future? And on and on it goes. Now I'm not suggesting that what happened in Colorado isn't newsworthy, nor is it invalid to discuss the larger issues which surround this terrible incident, but what really bugs me is the way constant media attention turns human tragedies such as this into TV spectacles. And the worst offender of the bunch is CNN, the television news equivalent of print media tabloids. They are showing every excruciating second of life around Columbine High in the aftermath of the

Enough already of tabloid TV!!

shooting as though it were just another TV show. Viewing CNN's coverage of this story, or any other for that matter, is like watching a movie of the week: "Carnage at Columbine — The Story of the Littleton Massacre", starring Morgan Fairchild, Perry King, and every other washed up TV actor you'd care to mention.

There are two ways in which this sort of sensationalistic reporting bothers me. Firstly, I think it's highly immoral and incredibly cynical to intrude on people's private, gut-wrenching grief for the sake of ratings, because, let's face it, that's what the whole thing is about in the end - market share. Secondly, presentation of real human suffering as just another thing to watch does tend to desensitize an audience. When everything on TV is packaged in the same way, then people begin to have trouble discerning what's real. This leads to a breakdown of true compassion for those in need. Sure, people will send money to help refugees in Kosovo, but they'll also send twice as much to the Home Shopping Channel to pur-

chase a juice machine which they'll use faithfully - for a month. It's the same thing in the end - spending money to feel better. There's no moral imperative or civic responsibility involved, and these concepts are degraded and seriously undermined by the homogenous way in which everything on TV, regardless of its import or veracity, is presented.

So what's the solution? Well, it would be a start if people with some moral fibre got into the upper echelon of the television industry - then maybe standards could slowly be raised. This new generation of TV executives would be sure of a continuing audience regardless of what they put on, since people will watch anything (as evidenced by the huge popularity of 'Baywatch'); therefore, they could make more humane and responsible programming decisions. Before too long, people would actually be learning important lessons while being entertained, and they wouldn't even know it was happening. It's like they say in that cereal commercial - they'll like it, just don't tell 'em it's good for them ♣

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OUTDOORS WITH GEORGE

By George Luchuk

Picture this... someone goes out and purchases a whole myriad of sport fishing paraphernalia (in some cases, adding up to thousands of dollars!) and spends additional time and money to get to that very special lake or river to catch a prize fish. Bizarrely, after the fish is caught, he lets it go.

Seems weird, eh? This is almost as strange as the behaviour of an old acquaintance of mine, who has a part-time business selling any type of fishing tackle, including his own creations. This person is extremely knowledgeable about virtually all aspects of sport fishing, and many have been the times I've tapped into his vast storehouse of knowledge.

So can you imagine my utter shock, when at an early stage of our acquaintance, I asked him where his favourite fishing spot was.

He answered: "Fishing? I don't go fishing, I don't have the patience for it, and what's more I don't like eating fish."

I thought he must be pulling my leg, but no, it's a fact. I've since come to see and understand as I'm aging (and hopefully, maturing) that everyone has their own spin on things, though some may appear rather bizarre. For instance, when my son Greg was about 15, he got up early one Saturday morning to make his own breakfast. The aroma from the kitchen, however, was not of bacon and eggs, but something very different. When curiosity overtook me, I went out to investigate. Spaghetti and meatballs were on the stove for breakfast!

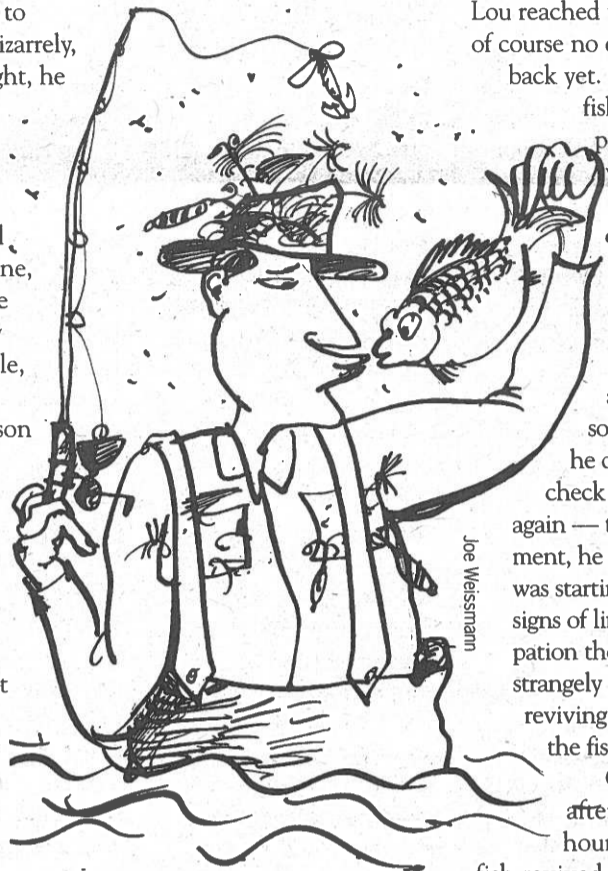
I said, "Greg, how could you?" Greg replied, "You should try it, Dad, you'll like it too." I guess I've been brought up with old-fashioned ideas — like when

Try it, you'll like it!

I was brought up with old-fashioned ideas — like when you catch fish, you eat them.

you go fishing and you catch fish, you eat them, and it's cereal, porridge or bacon and eggs for breakfast.

A few years ago, I renewed a friendship with a person that I knew in my younger years, and we got talking and trading sto-



Joe Weissman

ries about some of our outdoor adventures. The one question that I had never previously asked him was why he always releases his fish. So I broached the question, and Lou related that he was born and raised in northern Quebec in prime fishing and hunting country. His father, his uncles, brothers, cousins and friends all ate, lived, slept and breathed the outdoors. There was lots of competition and bragging by everyone.

One spring morning, when Lou was about 14, he set out with a group of family and friends for a productive day of fishing on Lake Caron. Within an hour, Lou caught the biggest pike that he ever caught, had ever seen or heard about in the community. Lou was totally excited, not only because he was able to "boat it" on his own, but because of the lifetime of bragging rights he would be able to enjoy. He was so excited he decided to immediately head back to the prearranged rendezvous.

On the way back, he watched the huge fish thrash about on the bottom of the boat, and he thought it would soon be dead. The eyes became glassy, and the fish's colour began to slowly change with the hot sun's rays beating down. When Lou reached the campsite, of course no one else was back yet. He laid the

fish in a shallow pool of lake water to keep it from drying out. He paced around on the shore, ultimately realizing it was going to be a long wait. For something to do, he decided to check on the fish again — to his amazement, he noticed that it was starting to show signs of life. His preoccupation then became strangely focused on reviving and keeping the fish alive.

Gradually, after about an hour, that large fish revived. Lou also experienced his own metamorphosis. He became transfixed by the fish, focusing intently on helping that fish live. Needless to say, it was a wondrous, liberating, personal experience when he let that magnificent fish swim free. Lou still loves fishing — and releases everything he catches.

I never thought that I would ever, at least in this lifetime, release a trophy fish back into the water. It is a truly liberating experience, not just for the fish, but especially for you. I'm also doing some other bizarre things like having spaghetti and meatballs for breakfast. It's great! You should try it! ♣



THE EDUCATION FILE

By Peter Ford

Remember sitting in a class, body present, mind elsewhere, thinking of something interesting, apparently mindless? Boring facts, material with no meaning for a student, will not be learned. The facts may be forcibly memorized for testing, then forgotten. They were never truly learned.

We're in a lose/lose situation. Education requiring massive dollar support for highly paid politicians and bureaucrats, down the line to costs for locals who follow mandated curriculum and testing dictates and for maintaining expensive facilities. Students lose — they learn stress, forget facts, disrespect teachers who can't challenge them, and get a gut-level feeling that education is often unimportant. Parents lose. Tax money doesn't result in children being meaningfully (mindfully) educated. Teachers lose.

Teaching for exams never worked, but becomes increasingly necessary as the Harris government stresses standard test results. (Test results don't indicate what people know. Never did. Never will. Standards that are both set and assessed by politicians are highly suspect... how do we know that test results, tools in politician's hands, are not used to promote themselves?) Good teachers usually don't need exams to know how students are learning.

Under increased control, good teachers lose. The Harris system hamstringing their work, their time, their energy, and robs them of credibility as they become increasingly less effective. The more good teachers are controlled, the less they can be creative... and we wonder why our best teachers are

Mindless learning, meaningless testing

Thank God for Mr. Harris!

quitting in droves! Who will be left after the current purge? Teachers who are content to be controlled; students who witness the wonders of externally controlled living, and frustrated parents.

Learning starts from a readiness within each student, each one unique. With a need to know, any information relating to that need is immediately interesting, learned easily, learned well. Good teachers tune in to each individual student coming into class. It takes only a moment, but pays vast dividends. First, the caring and then dissect the frog.

Mr. Harris says he care for students. His actions say the opposite. He will use test results to prove what students have learned, but knows full well that tests can't prove anything. He seems to say, I know exactly what you need to know. Here are the facts and the tests that prove what you have learned. Do as you are told, go where you are sent, follow our prescribed learning formulas, and you will be educated. It's a formula for

control and re-election, not for enhanced learning, not encouragement for creative thinking. While he talks care his actions tear.

THANK GOD FOR MR. HARRIS AND THE HARRISES.

An odd thing to say? Think about it. The system is outdated, gasping its last dying breaths. In many respects, teachers, materials, even classes may be obsolete, along with prescribed curriculum and exams. Is Mr. Harris doing us tough a favour by ripping apart traditions that worked well but need major rethinking? Yes, the fallout from recent legislation is causing massive problems for students, parents, and teachers, but I see emerging, like the phoenix from the ashes of the educational firestorm, a new, vastly different concept of what we learn, how, and where. Not without sadness, our old system must be dismantled. THANK YOU MR. HARRIS, FOR BEING SO THOROUGHLY DESTRUCTIVE.

On the other hand, I wouldn't think of voting Tory again. ♣

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COMMON GROUND

By Jill Williams

The frogs are calling, daffodils and primroses are blooming in the garden, and the woods are full of trilliums. Much anticipated spring is finally here, and my arm already feels like it might fall off after so many hours spent wielding the watering can. I expect to have to water in the heat of July and August, but not when the trees are leafing out at the beginning of May. I don't think I've ever seen a spring as dry as this one has been so far.

In the vegetable garden, the soil is cracking and curling like the ground in those old TV ads about famine in Africa. The Swiss chard and spinach planted last fall came through the winter quite successfully. Now, though, they're sulking from lack of moisture. I've been watering them often, but watering never seems to produce the same results as a good rain.

I bought a shadecloth this year to experiment with growing greens in the summer. It will protect against the heat of the mid-day sun, and still allow morning and late afternoon sun to get to the plants. That's the theory, anyway. Well, we'll see if it actually works when I put it up in the garden. And unless we

At long last, spring!

The soil is cracking and curling like the ground in those old TV ads about famine in Africa.

get several days of rain right away, I'll be putting it up as soon as I can.

The dry weather that has parched the vegetable garden hasn't affected the daffodils.

The dry weather that has parched the vegetable garden hasn't affected the daffodils and hyacinths and other spring bulbs. This has been a great spring for daffodils, although they don't last as long in the hot weather. It will soon be time to mark which clumps to divide with those annoying little plastic tags. I know they're ugly, but trust me, you won't remember what bulbs are where unless you mark them now.

I try to mark what needs to be divided as well as where I'd like to replant them. I'm going to plant excess daffodils (they multiply quickly in the ideal conditions of a flower bed) under trees and up the side of a hill. Anyone who has been to England in the spring knows that daffodils look wonderful in this kind of natural setting.

Early May is a good time to plant annual flower seeds to fill in the gaps that will be left when tulips and other bulbs are finished.

You could join the spring stampede to the garden centre and buy plants already started, but seeds are cheaper and work just as well. Lots of annuals self-seed, so you only have to plant them once. Annual seedlings start to come up in May, and usually only have to be thinned a little if they're thick. Self-seeding annuals that are easy to grow include Shirley poppy, love-in-a-mist, California poppy, larkspur, calendula, cosmos and sunflowers.

I do buy a few annual flowers already started to put in containers. I usually plant a few large clay pots with a mixture of annuals to put on the porch. Old standbys like nasturtiums, lobelia, Swan River daisy, Dahlberg daisy, geraniums and petunias work well in pots. You can try more unusual annuals in your containers but they often don't bloom for as long as the more common plants do. A few red petunias or other red flowers in the mix will attract hummingbirds.

Putting together annuals in containers is a great thing to do outside on a warm spring day. And we've certainly had lots of those so far this year. I'm hoping that by the time you read this, we will have had a little rain or, better still, a lot of rain. Happy spring! ♣



CREATIVE PARENTING

By Trish Boyd-Reininger

As summer quickly approaches, the realization that our children will be home full-time is upon us. Hot summer days and long summer nights have to be filled with activities, and care for our little ones.

Sunscreen, sun hats and lots of cool drinks are a necessity. I find that the lip balm sticks with SPF 15 or higher are a quick and easy way to get my children apply sunscreen regularly to those spots that burn easily. The nose, forehead, ears and under eyes are easily covered, and due to the thickness of the balm, will not get into your child's eyes. Sunscreen stings and runs when children sweat or swim. The rest of the exposed skin, of course, needs to be covered with the lotion or spray. Hats are a must!!

Having a cooler with a push button spout always full of cold water will keep children cool and hydrated. I like to put it within their reach with cups readily available. This allows the child to be responsible for himself, and you the freedom from non-stop service to the ongoing "Mom, I'm thirsty, can I have a drink?"

Popsicles and freezies are a relief from the heat. I make mine with those plastic ice pop containers with plastic sticks. They are reusable and can be made with juice, juice and milk (orange cream), and juice and yogurt — a healthy alternative to sugar water and food colouring. When I can, I freeze them a third at a time, adding different coloured juices to make three or four layers of colour (grape juice, apple juice and orange juice, etc.). These are especially nutritious and a favourite of most children. Watermelon, grapes, oranges, nuts, veggie sticks, crackers and cheese/peanut butter, salad, trail mixes and other small nutritious snacks keep children healthy and interested in eating on these really hot days.

Between 11:30 and 2:30 it is important to keep chil-

Planning for summer fun and safety

children in the shade or in the house. Their little bodies can't deal with our hot summer days, even with lots to drink and lots of sunscreen. At our house, lunch is served indoors (usually), and involves a movie, video games, reading or board games to keep them busy. A fun alternative is to pitch a tent. I bought one last year for around \$40. It is easily assembled, has a floor attached, sleeps three (children) and can be picked up and moved. This way, your grass doesn't suffer and it can be put in a cool spot. It makes sleepovers an adventure for the children and a breeze for the parent. I keep ours close to the house for toileting purposes and in case someone gets a little nervous. An outdoor light is turned on after they are asleep, so if they need to come in during the night, they can find their way. Flashlights make the adventure that much more real, and can prepare them for weekend camping trips with family or Guiding/Scouting groups. Snacks and even breakfast can be packed, as inevitably they will be hungry and up at 6 am.

Water is another way to keep things cool. Squirt games, super-soakers, water balloons, sprinklers and wading pools all help pass the long summer days ahead. Swimming pools, of course, are a blessing during the summer... but a blessing that too easily ends in tragedy if not supervised.

Until my guys could swim, they were never left alone by the pool, wading or otherwise. If I had to go in the house, they needed to come inside too. Once they were a bit older, and were comfortable in and around the pool, if I had to go inside and they didn't want to, they had two choices. They could put their lifejackets on or sit on the deck and wait for me. If they chose the latter, and did not stay seated on the deck, the choice was changed to lifejackets or "inside with me".

Children learn through trial and error much like ourselves. When my guys were little, I would walk around the pool with them and show them how to touch the water, by lying on their tummy and reaching in (not bending over into a diving position). Children are head-heavy, and slip in soundlessly when they are wet. Stay by their side, let them fall in and reach in and grab them. Their wide haunting eyes staring up at you through the water will not only teach them how dangerous it is, but remind us just how fast it can happen.

Take care over these next beautiful months, have fun with your little ones. It won't be long before we'll be getting out the snow clothes again and wishing that it was summer. ♣

The toughest part of motherhood is the inner worrying and not showing it - Audrey Hepburn



HASH N' BEANS

The Great Canadian Barbecue

By Arden Myers

Alright, it's the May 2-4 weekend... pure Canadiana! Chinese New Year, July 4, Mardi Gras, and the 24th of May — I feel our May long weekend and Canada Day hold up well for pomp, circumstance, and, well, good times alongside these

grand old holidays.

We've been inside for six months now, and are itching for an excuse to be outside. What a great time to scorch... er, barbecue some juicy cuts of beef!

Rib-eye steaks with bone in, or brisket of beef would be a good choice for this recipe, or, alternatively, similar cuts of pork. This is a Houston-style barbecue with meat grilled and sauce on the side. If you want to cook some of the sauce on, do so in the last five to ten minutes, so as not to burn the sugars.

First, this is a dry rub for the meat. Equal amounts of chili powder, onion powder, garlic powder, black pepper, white pepper and cumin. Rub this deep into the meat

and let sit for one hour to a day in the fridge.

Sauce: 1/2 onion minced, 4 cloves garlic minced, 1/2 cup lime juice, 2 tbsp. molasses, 1 tbsp. malt vinegar, 2 tsp. hot mustard, 1 tbsp. Tabasco, 1 tsp. crushed red pepper, 1/3 cup Worcestershire, 1/3 cup bourbon, 1-1/2 cups ketchup. Simmer 10 minutes, set aside to let flavours mix.

Oil a clean grill, barbecue should be around 200 degrees Fahrenheit - not too hot! Grill steaks slowly until done, let rest, then serve with sauce. Brisket will take about 2-3 hrs until fork tender or med-well done. ♣

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SPORTS AND RECREATION



Barry Larock

Children's laughter to be heard once again at Old School

By Barry Larock

The doors of The Old Millbrook School will open, once again, for the benefit of the community's children—renewing, in part, the School's mandate of 1890.

The facility's newest tenant (after the Millbrook Library) will be The Old Millbrook School Family Centre, created out of a desire to provide an atmosphere of growth, education and recreation for children and their families. The Centre will also offer family support services which are prevention-focused and non-treatment oriented.

"This has really been a year in [the] planning, with partners including the Millbrook Playschool, the Cavan-Millbrook Nursery School, PC Pals!, Peterborough Family Resource Centre support staff, Cavan-Millbrook-North Monaghan Parks and Recreation staff members and concerned individuals who met to discuss the need for a permanent facility for children's programs in the Township," Wilma Armstrong, a spokesperson for the group, explained.

"Once the need was determined, we struggled with a site for some time,

but everything led back to the Old Millbrook School which is really a perfect place, especially with the library linked to it and the ability for parents to read and learn with their children."

This undertaking has received approval, in principle, from the Township to use three basement rooms in the building. Specific renovations are still required in order for the facility to meet standards and regulations set out in the Day Nurseries Act. "This will also be a very safe environment for our children adhering to the Day Nurseries Act," Mrs. Armstrong added. "We will also need the support and involvement of the community to ensure the Old Millbrook School, so rich in history, is treated as a safe and picturesque location for the Old Millbrook School Family Centre."

The following is a list of some of the programs the Millbrook Old School Family Centre may operate in the future: a licensed before and after-school program for children 6 to 12 years of age; courses focusing on the care and well-being of infants; parenting courses for parents of young children; an early literacy

skills program in partnership with the library; a computer exploration program designed specifically for children; day camps for school-aged children (March/Christmas/Summer); and a meeting place for various groups and organizations.

The Centre is slated to open following completed renovations to the Old Millbrook School in September of 1999 (pending final municipal approval). For more information, or if you are interested in providing financial support for the facility (in exchange for a tax receipt issued by the Peterborough Family Resource Centre), please call Wilma Armstrong at 932-5547 or Pam Barnet at 277-1442. The Old Millbrook School Family Centre is currently doing fundraising for renovations at the school, by selling King Alfred daffodil bulbs. The bulbs will naturalize easily, with a life span of 25 years. Ten bulbs cost \$10, 25 - \$23, 50 - \$40 and 100 - \$65. For more information, check out the flyer inserted in this issue. Corporate sponsors are being sought to buy bulbs and donate them to local gardens or to the Communities in Bloom programme. ♣

Plant Swap featured at this year's opening of Farmers' Market

A series of special market days are planned for the 1999 season.

Plants and seeds will be the focus of the Grand Opening of the Millbrook Farmers' Market 1999 season, on Sunday, May 23, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Opening early this year to coincide with the planting season, the Farmers' Market is inviting all its patrons to come and join in the special events and festivities planned for this year's opening. A special feature on opening day will be a Giant Plant Swap, where all green thumbs are invited to come and trade perennials on a take-a-plant, leave-a-plant basis. Those without plants to swap can leave a donation which will go to Millbrook Food Share.

Local plant specialist and Green Hills Gazette columnist Jill Williams, who is organizing the opening day events, will also be on hand to help identify your mystery perennials. Join in the Name That Herb contest, and win an instant herb garden. Other events planned for the day will include fiddle music by Curtis Dreidger, a Friends of the Library display and the ever-popular Market Basket Give-Away.

This year's all-local market will feature the same familiar vendors as other years, with a few new faces. Available at this year's market will be perennials, herbs and seeds, locally grown beef, honey and apples, home made sausage on a bun and local craft work. Other special market days being planned for the Millbrook Farmers' Market's fourth season include September's wacky Zucchini Festival (plant



Arden Myers, author of the Green Hills Gazette cooking column "Hash and Beans" and chef extraordinaire checks out the fresh organically grown produce at last year's market.

those prize-winning zucchinis now!) and the Apple Festival in the fall.

The market vendors invite everyone to come down and enjoy Sunday mornings by the mill pond, a block from downtown Millbrook, take advantage of the new picnic facilities at Medd's Mountain, and check out the on-going slate of special market days planned throughout the 1999 season.

If you are interested in participating as a vendor, or have a community group who would like to take advantage of free booth space to promote your organization on market days, please call Marion at 932-3153. ♣

Budding Peles start Maple Leaf League season

By Barry Larock

Marilyn Burns enjoyed Cavan/Millbrook Maple Leaf Soccer so much last season that she decided to invest in the league personally.

She has decided, like so many before her, to give something back to the game, by volunteering as a coach for the very first time. "I'm just as excited as my son to be involved in the league," Mrs. Burns enthused. Soccer coaches in the league are preparing for the first week of soccer beginning May 24.

"I really thought the league was well organized last year, and very positive in terms of skills building and social activity. So I decided to kick a little back into the organization and help out in any way I could."

And coaches are indeed a necessity. According to league registrar Sally Samis, currently in her

fourth year on the executive, there are 450 boys and girls between the ages of five and 14 on 36 teams registered for this year's league. The league will operate Monday to Thursday nights for twelve weeks, with the final week set for a barbecue and awards night. Games will be played at the Cavan Maple Leaf Park as well as, for the first time this season, the Millbrook-South Cavan School in Millbrook.

"This is getting to be a lot of work," Samis said, adding that the league has grown from 120 children in the 1991 to its present size. "Registration has been so good that we now have enough kids on teams in each individual age category."

Marilyn Burns, for example, will coach her son Benjamin in the 8-year-old age group, with her team sponsored by

Nexicom. "My son reacted quite differently than my daughter, who said she didn't want me to coach her 5-year-old team," Marilyn said. "But Benjamin was really quite fine with me coaching him, and he thought I would do a great job. I think I'll still get a little help from my husband, however, who grew up in Scotland and knows the game very well. I think we're all looking forward to this being a good family experience."

And what kind of strategy is Mrs. Burns going to instill in her players?

"I'm going to focus on (helping them be) the best they can be," she said with confidence. "I hope to concentrate on team play and the team concept, but perhaps most importantly, I want to make sure everyone has a good time."

With a philosophy like that, coach, there's no doubt you'll go a long way. ♣

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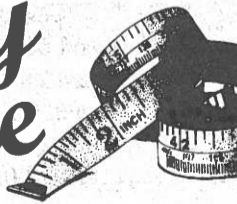
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ARTS & CULTURE

Smorgasbord of stories at South Cavan School

By Sue Guthrie

Where did unicorns play the violin, people talk like an idiom and potatoes tell the tales of great dinosaur adventures, in stories by the dozen?

At the Young Authors' Illustrators' Conference at South Cavan Public School, of course!

Students in junior kindergarten through grade four had the opportunity to learn more about telling, writing and illustrating stories on May 6, through the words and pictures of local authors and illustrators Bill Slavin, Joe Weissmann and Judi Peers.

Everyone at the school took part in the planning process for this morning of twelve creative workshops, with teachers partnering to plan each session. Students came prepared with their own stories to work on, and threw in a loonie each to support the workshops.

Following an entertaining kick-off to the morning by author/illustrator Bill Slavin, the children went to the first hour-long workshop. Mr. Slavin recounted how he became interested in drawing and telling stories, and encouraged participants to "never put aside their dreams". He then read from his book "The Stone Lion".

While the Junior and Senior Kindergarten students participated in a co-operative class alphabet book, the rest of the workshops included a mixed group of students from grade one through grade four. Workshops included Fables, Pop-up Books, The Magical World of Puppets, a Song-Writing Workshop, Follow the Pattern and Create Your Own Book, Mystery Words, Start Stamping and Gilbert and Friends.

The overall objective of the conference was to

expose children to the many facets of authorship and book illustration. Youngsters were able to interact and work with professional authors and illustrators, and become familiar with the process of "publishing" their own writing, expand their knowledge and skill of illustration, and continue to develop language skills.

The ever-popular dinosaur provided the main ingredient for author Judi Peers "Stegosaurus Stew" workshop. Students were delighted to find out just how much they already knew about dinosaurs in Peers' game show quiz, presenting concepts of science and history in a fun, and entertaining way. They went on to "let the potatoes do the talking", writing their own story about the life of dinosaurs. Acting as creative palaeontologists, the children told the story of dinosaurs living together



Armed with stories such as "Bad Bad Bee" and "Facts About The Titanic", young authors with illustrating on their minds participated enthusiastically in Fiona Crangle's "Illustrating Your Own Story" workshop.

by the examination of fossils. A selection of dinosaur footprints were created, using a potato printing technique and a bright array of colors.

Mr. Slavin's workshop, "Ideas to Books", presented young authors and illustrators with tools to tackle their stories. The children were very keen to see Slavin's first book "Zok the Cave Man", created when he was in grade three, as well as illustrations from his work "The Hunchback of Notre Dame". Students were active in initiating discussion about the methods Bill uses to tell stories, and learned that design is word and pictures interacting together.

Armed with stories such as "Bad Bad Bee" and "Facts About The Titanic", young authors with illustrating on their minds participated enthusiastically in Fiona Crangle's "Illustrating Your Own Story" workshop. Ms. Crangle is an artist, teacher and art consultant who owns and operates the Ad Hoc Studio in Port Hope. Stories for the workshop started out handwritten with artistic additions, then were typed up and organized on index cards. Providing a sample she created using the Little Red Riding Hood story, Fiona presented a step-by-step method for students to consider their own story and plan its illustrations. Students learned how to arrange words on the page to relate to the story's action, and how to make words follow the story line.

Ideas and a wacky sense of humor were the requirements for professional illustrator Joe Weissmann's "Cartoons Are For Everyone" workshop. Plain shapes on the blackboard were soon transformed to ani-

mated characters that were full of movement and expression. Budding cartoonists took up the challenge and soon one produced work described as "the dragon that crushed his mule with a tree." Weissmann said "cartoons are for anyone." He encouraged the children to "be energetic and draw with vitality, don't be afraid of the page," and to remember "anything goes, there are no mistakes here!"

Young authors and illustrators found the place to add some zing to their sentences was Mme. Laslo's "Talking Like an Idiom" workshop — as in "raining like cats and dogs" In the

process of putting together words and sentences to illustrate, visual images were conjured up like magic.

This eclectic day of story telling, writing and illustrating was well received by the participants. What was their story? How could they tell it in a new way? How could they tell it in their own unique way?

Vice-principal Terry Moodie credited the success of this enriching day to "being in the community of Millbrook, which is blessed to have a rich artistic community," the excellent staff support and the generous donation of the School Council. ♦

Gallery celebrates 150th anniversary of fair

Question: What do the twenty members of the Millbrook Gallery collective all have in common? Answer: They are all professional artists who have chosen to live and work in a rural environment.

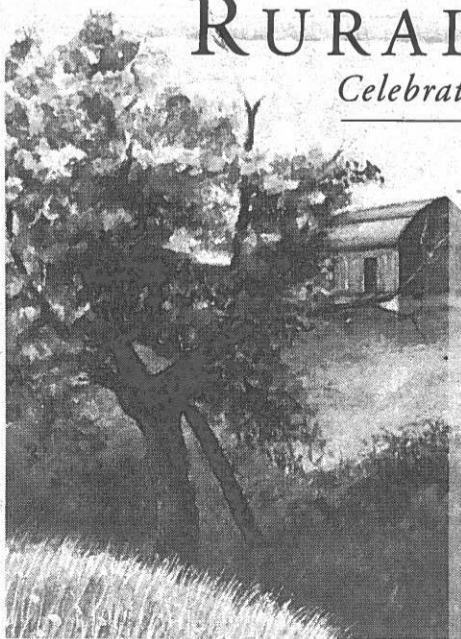
Rural Routes, Celebrating Millbrook's 150th Fair is the title of the newest exhibition at the Gallery, and will open on the fair weekend, Friday, June 11, at 7:30 p.m. The exhibition will feature artists' work in various media, exploring and reflect-

ing upon the impact a rural environment has had upon their art. Most of the artists have chosen the Millbrook area as their home over the past years, in many cases leaving an urban environment to be drawn independently, and for different reasons, to make this region their home. The Millbrook Gallery artists felt strongly that the 150th anniversary of the fair was a momentous occasion for their community and that it would be appropriate to help celebrate it through a special exhibition.

Among the work featured in this exhibition will be photographs taken by Millbrook Gallery alumni member Wayne Eardley, who has recorded in beautiful black and white images some of the scenes at earlier Millbrook fairs. The theme was originally suggested by painter and gallery member Emma Hesse, who donated the painting which many have seen reproduced on this year's fair poster, and which is being raffled off as a fundraiser for the 150th celebrations. ♦

RURAL ROUTES

Celebrating Millbrook's 150th Fair



An exhibition featuring work in various media, exploring and reflecting upon our common rural environment. Continues until Sunday, July 17.

Opening reception
Friday, June 11 at 7:30 p.m.

Hours: Saturday 10-5
Thursday, Friday & Sunday 12-5

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Community Calendar and Cultural Events Listings

Tear out this page and post!

KEEP THIS CALENDAR ON YOUR FRIDGE OR WALL FOR QUICK REFERENCE TO UPCOMING EVENTS. IF YOU KNOW OF A COMMUNITY EVENT THAT SHOULD BE INCLUDED ON THE NEXT CALENDAR, PLEASE FAX THE INFORMATION TO (705) 932-4041, OR CALL (705) 932-2175, OR MAIL IT TO THE GAZETTE, 69 KING STREET EAST, MILLBROOK, ONTARIO, L0A 1G0.

Community Events

Women and Stress
At Millbrook Christian Assembly Church
May 18, 10 am - 12 noon
Presented by Peterborough Family Resource Centre Outreach.
For more info, call 748-9144.

Giant Plant Swap at Millbrook Farmers' Market Grand Opening
At the Mill Pond, Millbrook
Sun. May 23, 9 am - 2 pm
Plenty of fun for the whole family. Curtis Driedger will play fiddle and traditional tunes. (See story this issue for details.)

Mixed Three Pitch Tournament
At the Millbrook Fairgrounds
May 29, all day
Fundraiser for Millbrook and District Food Share, \$180 per team, plus donation of canned goods. To sign up a team, call Tom or Margaret 932-3427.

Medieval Tournament
At the Millpond, Millbrook
Sat. June 5, 10 am
Tournament sponsored by Peterborough Chapter of Creative Anachronism; events include fighting, fencing, archery and more.

Ecumenical Rogation Service
At the Millbrook Fairgrounds
Sun. June 6, 3 pm
Led by members of the Local Ministerial, the service will bless the spring planting. Bring a lawn chair.

Seniors' Council/Community Care Picnic
At the Millbrook Legion
Tues. June 8, 10 am start
Day of fun to celebrate International Year of Older Persons; Millbrook School Band will perform. Lunch to be provided. For more info, call Shelagh 932-2011 or Maureen at 932-2911.

150th Millbrook Fair
At the Fairgrounds, Millbrook
Fri. June 11 - Sun. June 13
(see articles this issue for details)

Rhododendrons and Azaleas
At St. Thomas' Church Hall, Millbrook
Wed. June 2, 7:30 pm
Monthly meeting of Millbrook/Area Garden Club. Speaker David Hinton

of Orono. Everyone welcome.

Galleries/Museums

The Fourth Annual Student Exhibition
At Art Gallery of Northumberland
55 King Street West, Cobourg
June 4 - June 20
(905) 372-0333

Spring Open House
At Whetung Ojibwa Centre, Curve Lake
657-3661

Rural Routes
Celebrating Millbrook's 150th Fair
At the Millbrook Gallery
Opens Fri., June 11, 7:30 pm
An exhibition of work reflecting and exploring our common rural environment. For more info call 932-5482

Film

Capitol Theatre Film Series
At the Capitol Theatre
20 Queen Street, Port Hope
1-800-434-5092
Thursday May 20
Children of Heaven
Tuesday May 25
Tango

Forward Into The Past Film Series
Friday May 21, 7:30 p.m.
The Millbrook Gallery
Contact: Dan Fewings
740-0036

Music

Richard Wood "Fiddling & Step Dancing Champion"
At the Capitol Theatre, Port Hope
Friday May 21, 8:00pm
For tickets call (905)885-1071 or 1-800-434-5092

Rheostatics
The Gordon Best Theatre
Saturday May 22, 10:00 pm
For tickets call the theatre at 876-8884 or www.the-gordonbesttheatre.com

Hank Williams III
At Millbrook Community Centre
Sat. May 25, matinee 2 pm, evening 8 pm
Sponsored by the Millbrook and District Lions Club. Food available at evening show. Tickets \$15 (advance) and \$17.50 - afternoon show; \$22.50 and \$25.00 for evening

show. For more information or tickets, call Bill at 932-2450.

Trent Valley Literacy Association Presents
Peter Appleyard
At Showplace Peterborough
Thursday May 27, 8:00 pm
For tickets call 742-7469, Showplace or the TVLA office

Lawrence Gowan
At Market Hall, Peterborough
Friday May 28, 8:00 pm
Tickets available at Wayne's Music World

Capitol Folk Evening
Featuring "Night Sun, Bill Garrett & Curly Boy Stubbs, Born Yesterday"
At 14 Queen St., Port Hope
Saturday, May 29 8:00 pm
Contact: (905)885-1071 or 1-800-434-5092

The Multicultural Association of Peterborough & District and The New Canadian Centre Present International Dinner & Dance
At the Evinrude Community Centre
Sat. 29, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
social hour, 7:30 Dinner, followed by Latino Dance
Tickets \$25. Contact: the NCC 743-0882 or Raja Gopalan at 742-9333

Brad Hall's Words and Music, "The Songs of Lerner & Lowe"
At Victoria Hall Concert Hall, Cobourg
Friday June 4 & Saturday June 5
(905)372-2210

Willie P. Bennett
At the Give A Hoot Cafe, Old Millbrook School
Sat. June 5, 8 pm.
Juno nominee will perform along with local talent on the Open Stage. \$10 at the door, \$5 if you sing in the Hoot.

"Here Today Ghana Tomorrow"
African Drums, Modern Dance & Celebration
Through Song: A Fundraising Concert To Support Student Involvement In Ghana Development Projects
At Market Hall, Peterborough
Wednesday June 9, 7:30 pm
For more info, call 749-1146. Tickets at door \$10

The Legendary Shaolin Monks
At the Capitol Theatre,

Port Hope
Tuesday June 10, 8:00 pm
For tickets call (905)885-1071 or 1-800-434-5092

Festivals/Fairs

Roseneath Carousel Days
Sun., May 23, 10 am - 4 pm
Sun., June 6, 2 pm - 4 pm
Sun., June 20, 2 pm - 4pm

11th Annual Apple Blossom Tyme Festival
At Colborne, Ontario
Saturday & Sunday May 29 & 30
Contact: (905)355-2846 or www.colbornecap.com

Kawartha Lakes Children's Festival
Thurs. to Sat., June 3 to 5
Evinrude Centre, Canadian Canoe Museum and Del Cray Park
For more info call 743-8273

Sotheby's Heirloom Discovery Day
Presented By The Architectural Conservancy Of Ontario
At Beatrice Strong Public School
90 Rose Glen Road North, Port Hope
Saturday, June 19, 10 am - 4 pm
For tickets/info contact The Capitol Theatre (905)885-1071 or 1-800-434-5092

Art Gallery of Peterborough Annual Garden Tour
Sunday June 13
10 am - 5 pm
Reserve tickets; contact the gallery 743-9179

The 4th Annual Prince Edward County Authors Festival
(including Andrew Piper,

On-Going Events

Regular Council Meeting First Monday of each month at 7:30p.m.

Millbrook Playschool Every Tues. and Thurs. (except third Tues.) at Millbrook Christian Assembly, call Wilma at 932-5547 for more info.

New to You Used clothing on sale at the Millbrook Community Care office, Mon-Fri 11 am-noon, Sat 10 am-noon.

Bingo Every Thurs. at the Legion at 7:45 pm.

Baillieboro Library Boutique Tues noon-3:00 pm, Sat 10:00 am-1:00 pm. Proceeds to the Baillieboro Library.

Municipal Planning Mtg. Second Mon. of the month, at 7 pm

Creative Card Making Every Mon. at the Community Care Office from 9:30-11:30 am

Bridge Every Mon. at the Millbrook Legion at 1 pm

Millbrook and District Food Share at the Old Millbrook School, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Tues., 3 pm-5 pm.

Cavan Nursery School Tues., Wed. 9 to noon at Cavan Community Centre. Info:Christina Shantz

Euclre Every Wednesday at the Legion at 1:30 pm

Millbrook Green Exchange Every second Sat. at the Municipal yard in Millbrook. Take or give what you like for a loonie.

Committee of Whole Council Meeting Third Monday of each month at 7:30p.m.

MADCAP Millbrook - Mon. to Thurs. 1 to 6pm, Fri. 10am to 5 pm
Monaghan Library Tues. & Thurs., 2:30 - 8pm, Sat. 10 am - 3 pm.

Millbrook Cavan-Historical Society Every third Wed. at St. Thomas' Anglican Church Hall, Millbrook.

Joyful Noise Junior Choir Tues., 6:30 pm, at St. Andrew's United Church, Millbrook

Kids in the Hall Youth Group Fri., 7 - 10 pm, at the Cavan Hall. Ages 15 and under, \$1 per participant plus a donation to Foodshare. For more information, call 944-5414 or 277-1269

Fraserville LOL Dance Second Sat. monthly, 9 pm. Featuring Harold Davidson Country.

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FINANCIAL PLANNING

High value RRIF strategy

By Bob MacLeod

If you have RRSPs, you must decide how to mature them no later than the year you turn 69. Most people transfer to Registered Retirement Income Funds (RRIF), but your choices go well beyond choosing the right RRIF. Here's one specific strategy that can significantly add value for those considering maturing RRSPs.

Consider a man aged 69, with \$100,000 in RRSPs. His wife is 65. He must mature his RRSPs this year and start taking income from them next year. He does not really need the extra income now, and is concerned the RRIF income will increase his taxes and add to the clawback of OAS. He knows that while the value of his RRIF is transferred to his spouse tax-free in his estate, at her death, he could easily pay 50% of the remaining value in estate tax. What he really wants is a way to minimize taxes now, and preserve his capital. He is a conservative investor, and wants to keep the risk level low.

Suppose he transferred his RRSP to a five-year guaranteed RRIF earning a fixed 5.25%. He takes the mini-

mum income allowed, and bases this on his wife's age. Next year, he would have to take out 4% and this would increase each year to about 4.8% in 5 years. So his extra taxable income would average about \$4,200 per year, and his RRIF would be worth about \$104,000 in five years. He has no investment risk.

But he still must pay about 40% or almost \$1,700 per year in taxes, and his OAS clawback will increase. And he still has the \$50,000 estate tax liability. Here's where the high value strategy takes over. He uses a line of credit to borrow \$60,000 for which he pays interest at 7%, or \$4,200 per year. He invests this money in a conservative portfolio of mutual funds that can reasonably be expected to earn about 8%. Result? He has \$4,200 of taxable RRIF income each year, but uses it to pay the \$4,200 loan interest, which is fully tax-deductible as interest on an investment loan. Result? He has eliminated his extra tax and clawback.

This leaves estate tax liability. How can he plan around this? He earns about \$3,200 of yearly, after-tax profit from his \$60,000

investment. He takes this money each year for five years, and invests in a Universal Life insurance policy that pays tax-free on the death of the last surviving spouse. The policy is fully paid for in five years, and lasts for life. He will have almost \$60,000 in insurance, more than enough to pay estate taxes and protect capital for his children.

Result? His capital investment is protected, and his tax bill does not increase. He has eliminated any additional OAS clawback. His objectives are satisfied, at no extra cost! If you are considering maturing RRSPs, why not look at high value strategies like this to get maximum benefit? ♣

Bob MacLeod is President of Money Concepts Peterborough, 223 King St., Peterborough, K9J 2R8, (705) 876-6086, fax 876-7882, rmacleod@nexi.com.net. All information in this article is taken from sources believed to be reliable, but are not guaranteed. Opinions are those of the author. Affiliated with Money Concepts Group Capital Corp. and NEMS Insurance Agency Inc.

Breakfast Club offers students important start to day

By Melanie Anderson

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day, providing energy for the mental and physical tasks ahead.

Children often miss breakfast, for a variety of reasons. In some cases, it's because mom and dad are hustling to get out the door for work and there's little time to ensure the kids get something decent to eat. Sometimes there's not enough to eat in the cupboard, so children go without.

Regardless of the reasons for missing breakfast, The Breakfast for Learning programme has been started up at Millbrook/South Cavan Public School for all children who want it.

Since April 7, the pilot project has provided breakfast on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from the time the first bus arrives until 8:45 am. Twenty volunteers set up and serve a variety of quick, easy-to-eat foods, including dry cereal, bagels, and muffins (depending on the day) along with apples and

juice. Most of the food is from Kawartha Food Share.

The idea was researched by the School Council last year, and a possible need for a breakfast programme was discovered.


The impact of the provided breakfast on students' performance in class has yet to be determined. By the end of June, teacher input and an assessment of num-

bers attending will determine the continuation of the programme on a full-time basis.

The Kinsmen Club of Peterborough recently donated \$1,000 to the programme - donations are gratefully accepted! More volunteers are needed - contact Shelley Storage at 932-2599, or Frances Shakov at 932-2679. ♣

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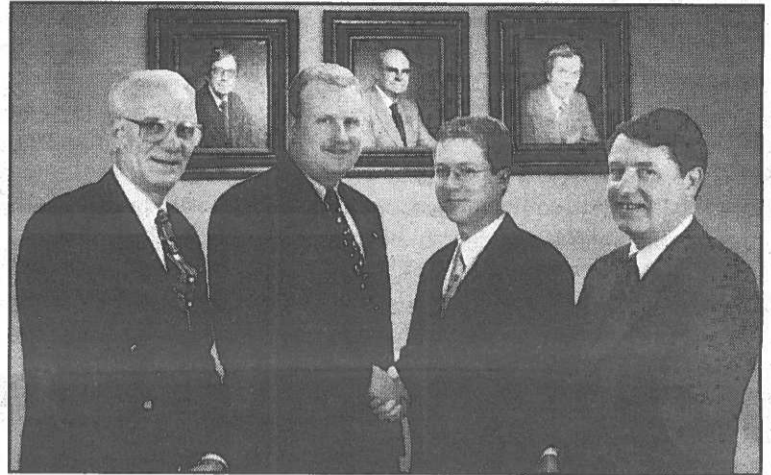


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