

In and About

By Virginia McBurney



The Almonte and Area Horticultural Society met Monday evening at the Reformed Presbyterian Hall with a mini-show of forced blooming branches.

Cindy Zorgel came in first with a lilac in leaf with tiny buds.

Mary Coates was second with lilac and Virginia McBurney finished third with pink hybrid pussywillow.

Carol Crawford won in the "little green sprouts" division with a tray of small impatiens plants.

Next month's mini-show will be "display of early spring flowers in a container," so come and brighten up the hall with your entry.

The evening's speaker, organic grower Larry Robinson, from Roblyn Eyrie Farm near Perth, talked about growing fruits and vegetables using no chemicals.

"I'd sooner share my apple with a worm than with a chemical company and know it's safe to eat," he said.

There used to be 15,000 varieties of apples in the U.S. and 4,000 in New York State alone at the turn of the century. But big commercial growers interested in big volume, shelf life and big money and competition have put the number of varieties down to just five or so. These include Granny Smith, golden delicious, red delicious and mac.

Which old varieties do you remember from your youth? There is an attempt to keep seeds of thousands of varieties of plants for future in the "seed bank." Larry said "the Canadian government will not market the apple trees taxpayers have funded, but these are marketed in the United States. You have to go there to get them. There is no information for zone 5A and north in Canada by the government to raise these apples."

Some helpful hints he gave included planting fruit trees on the north facing slope to avoid extreme temperature changes. If you have no choice, paint the trunk with white-wash to keep cool.

Only five per cent of insects and worms do harm, nine per cent are beneficial, and the rest are benign, so don't believe the big chemical companies that say spray.

Fairview Manor had a "Welcome Spring" luncheon Monday with a big buffet of salads, cold meats and desserts for all the residents.

That afternoon, Sheila took eight residents shopping at Hazeldean Mall, Kanata. Tuesday, a sumptuous dinner was given honoring employees who have worked five years or more. Men's Club Dinner Thursday included pork chops, scalloped potatoes, carrots and lemon meringue pie.

A Grade 3 class from Naismith Memorial Public School came to sing songs from "Sound of Music" and other musicals. It's always a delight to have the children in to spark up the day.

Father Robert Jenkins came in to Almonte Nursing Home Friday for the Catholic service.

Rev. Rob Davis from the Anglican Church had the Sunday Church service.

The Craft Club started making a springtime collage.

The Needhams and Lorne Allen led the sing-along.

Baking Club made delicious oatmeal cookies.

Woodworking group is hard at work making bird-feeders.

It's been a wonderful week to get outside, see and listen to the arriving birds, and feel the warm sunshine.



Ta-da!

Ron Caron of the Valley Players shows off the new and improved stage in the town hall auditorium. Caron has been overseeing the work paid for, in part, by focal cultural groups.

Curtain rises on renovated town hall auditorium

By Lois Tuffin
Assistant editor

These days Almonte's home of drama has seen irony around its stage rather than on it.

Six years ago the unheated town hall auditorium was virtually deserted.

Yet four weeks ago workmen had to shove aside their tools and dust to make room for an eager crowd of close to 200.

As Laughton and Humphreys performed trumpet and voice duets, Almonte art enthusiasts raved about the quality of the acoustics and marveled at the physical changes to the facility over the past three months.

All this is music to Pam Murphy's ears. The former councillor joined forces with local arts groups in March, 1989 to decide what to do with the hall where the community used to meet regularly.

She said when she decided to run for council she wanted to address the absence of "non-competitive recreation" in town.

"It really feels fantastic," she said Friday of watching the recent changes. "We've come full circle."

Since January, A. Savage Construction has rebuilt the stage, adding more wing and storage space. The low stage ceiling is gone, replaced by an overhead light grid.

Workmen moved the decorative arch forward to match the edge of the stage

and patched the hole in the plaster in the back wall.

Murphy said she "picked up the gauntlet" from violin teacher Suzanne Snelling who started "pounding" council about the hall in February, 1987.

By December the heat was on in the hall, but not off council.

They pledged \$30,000 to match contributions from the province and local arts groups.

While costs climbed from \$90,000 to \$105,000, the town and the community each offered to find the money to make up the difference.

While Snelling said the heated hall offered all the Mississippi Arts Connection needed, "we wanted it to suit all groups so it would be a cultural centre."

Peter Martin, president of the Almonte and District Arts Council, agreed.

"The thing we like about the hall is the acoustics," he said.

(While the arts council and arts connection worried about losing sound when the overhead ceiling was removed, these fears evaporated during the Laughton and Humphreys show.)

The other "bonus" is space for an audience of 200, something the council could not expect when it held concerts in members' homes.

"We wanted to see the hall being used so we supported it," said Martin.

Ron Caron, who drew the initial plans

for the renovations, has put in more than 500 volunteer hours overseeing the construction for the amateur theatre group.

He has designed and installed an overhead light grid. He has also advised the contractor what his group wanted, like the new 10 feet at the front of the stage which replaced a temporary stage and the new wiring.

Caron praised the architect Derek Crain and contractor Savage for their attention to detail and willingness to listen.

"I think we were very fortunate to end up with such an architect and contractor," he said.

Meanwhile Caron's colleagues have nothing but praise for his time contribution.

"We could not have done it without him," said Wendy Shaw, later backed up by Kim Julian.

The Valley Players held their first rehearsal in the "new" auditorium March 24 after practising at the Almonte United Church during construction.

Their eighth production in the town hall, entitled "Run for Your Wife," premieres April 21.

As Caron surveyed the sawdust-covered auditorium he sighed deeply.

"People should appreciate what they have. We have a real treasure here."

He and Snelling are already looking ahead to phase two with an elevator for older arts patrons.

HAPPY 6th BIRTHDAY
"GRANDPA'S LITTLE GIRL"
HEATHER KRUSHELNISKI
APRIL 2nd, 1993

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
JASON
LOVE — DADDY and SHELLEY

REBEL COUNTRY
THURSDAY, APRIL 8th
7:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.
Almonte Community Centre Hall
featuring: "ARLENE QUINN and RAMBLING ROSE"
BRAD MUNRO and MARTY McTIERNAN
LUCIE GOSSET SECONDS OUT
ADMISSION — \$5.00
PROCEEDS TO SUPPORT LOCAL CHARITIES
Tickets available at: Couples Corner, Arena and Almonte Hotel

Read The Gazette each week for all your advertising needs

HOLY WEEK SERVICES
ST. MICHAEL'S PARISH — CORKERY
REV. WILLIAM PENNEY, PASTOR 256-3441
APRIL 3rd - April 11th
SATURDAY, APRIL 3rd — 4:30 p.m. — BLESSING of PALMS and EUCHARIST
PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 4th — 11:00 a.m. — SOLEMN BLESSING of PALMS with PROCESSION OUTDOORS
MONDAY of HOLY WEEK, APRIL 5th — 9:30 a.m. — EUCHARIST
TUESDAY of HOLY WEEK, APRIL 6th — 9:30 a.m. — EUCHARIST
7:00 p.m. — CHRISMASS MASS, Basilica Notre Dame, Sussex Drive
HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 8th — 7:30 p.m. — MASS of the LORD'S SUPPER
EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT III MIDNIGHT
11:00 p.m. - Midnight — HOLY HOUR "Could you not stay awake with me for one hour"
GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 9th — 11:00 a.m. — CHILDREN'S WAY OF THE CROSS
3:00 p.m. — PASSION OF CHRIST
7:30 P.M. — MARY'S WAY OF THE CROSS
HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 10th — 8:00 p.m. — EASTER VIGIL RECEPTION AFTER VIGIL
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 11th — 9:00 a.m. — EUCHARIST
11:00 a.m. — FULL CHILDREN'S LITURGY

ST. PETER CELESTINE
Roman Catholic Church
Pakenham, Ontario
HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE
SUNDAY, APRIL 4th
9:00 a.m. — BLESSING and PROCESSION of PALMS
TUESDAY, APRIL 6th
7:00 p.m. — CHRISMASS MASS, NOTRE DAME BASILICA
THURSDAY, APRIL 8th
8:00 p.m. — HOLY THURSDAY — MASS of the LORD'S SUPPER with EXPOSITION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT until Midnight
"Could You Not Stay Awake with Me for One Hour"
FRIDAY, APRIL 9th — GOOD FRIDAY
11:00 a.m. — CHILDREN'S WAY OF THE CROSS
3:00 p.m. — The WAY of the CROSS FOLLOWED by the CELEBRATION of the LORD'S PASSION
SATURDAY, APRIL 10th — HOLY SATURDAY
8:00 p.m. — EASTER VIGIL
SUNDAY, APRIL 11th — EASTER SUNDAY
9:00 a.m. — MASS for YOUNG PEOPLE

TRAILER SITES FOR SALE
A limited number of serviced trailer sites are for sale, or rent. The property is comprised of 37 acres fronting on a beautiful section of the Rideau waterway.
• 1,900 feet of picturesque shoreline
• Ideal location with excellent access
• own your site instead of renting
• benefit from the increasing value of the sites
For more information, without obligation contact:
JONES FALLS DEVELOPMENT LTD.
432-300 MARCH RD., KANATA, ONT. K2K 2E2
Tel.: (613) 599-8066 Fax: (613) 599-8067

MACLEAN-YOUNG
PICTURE FRAMERS
SPRUCE UP YOUR WALLS FOR SPRING!!
Have your old pictures "RENEWED".
Choose a new mat and/or moulding and we'll clean and refit your picture FREE.
89 Mill Street • Almonte, Ontario K0A 1A0 • 613-256-4681

The family of
SUSAN FRANCE
cordially invite friends and relatives to a TEA in honour of her
90th BIRTHDAY
Sunday, April 4th
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
ALMONTE LEGION HALL
BEST WISHES ONLY

LAW AND THE LAYMAN
by L. G. WILLIAM CHAPMAN, Barr.
ALMONTE LIBRARY — 7:00 P.M.
Tuesday, April 13, 20 and 27
Topics include wills, powers of attorney, selling a house, investing money, old age homes, contracts, and estate administration.
ADVANCE REGISTRATION NECESSARY
PHONE — JOAN RIVINGTON — 256-2243

ALMONTE PHARMACY
"WE CARE ABOUT YOUR NEEDS"
24 Mill St. 256-2466

FOR SALE
BRYLIN TRADE-INS
SOLD
2 STOREY OLDER HOME — with garage can be converted to a duplex with only \$15,000 down. Mortgage payment of only \$699 with 7.49% mortgage. New gas fireplace. Near all schools. We pay land transfer tax if you have an OHOSP. Washer, dryer, fridge and stove included. Legal fees paid up to \$600. Only \$28,000 gross income to qualify.
SOLD
3 BR 2-STOREY OLDER HOME — lot 50' x 100'. Washer, dryer, fridge and stove included. Gas heat. Only \$4,995 down, mortgage \$599 with a 5 year 7.49% mortgage. Combined gross income to qualify. Rent to buy also available also. We pay land transfer tax if you have an OHOSP. We pay legal up to \$600.
SOLD
3 BR TOWNHOUSE — 4 new appliances, larger deck. Fenced in back yard, gas heat, air conditioning. Finished basement. \$5,700 down. \$599 mortgage. 7.49% 5 year term, \$759 per month. We pay land transfer tax if you have an OHOSP. Legal fees paid up to \$600. \$35,000 gross income to qualify.
SOLD
3 BR TOWNHOUSE — 4 appliances, gas heat, available for April occupancy. \$5,495 down \$743 monthly. We pay land transfer tax if you have an OHOSP. We pay legal up to \$600. \$33,000 gross income to qualify.
SOLD
2 BR SINGLE HOME IN BLAKEVEY — Woodstove, large lot, family room, garage. \$625 down. \$625 monthly, 5 yr. term at 7.49%. We pay land transfer tax if you have an OHOSP. \$30,000 combined gross income to qualify for a mortgage.
2 + 1 BEDROOM TOWN HOME — Garage, finished basement, 1 - 4 pc. + 1 - 3 pc. bath, door to garage, gas heat. Mortgage bought down to 7.49% for 5 year term. \$675.00/month. Combined income of \$29,500 to qualify. Only \$5,100 down. We pay legal up to \$600.00
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
257-7000

Make your move.
PARTICIPATION

HIGHEST EFFICIENCY
up to 400% energy efficient
Cut utility costs 30 - 60% with the affordable WaterFurnace® Geothermal System. Heating in winter, cooling in summer and plenty of hot water. The system uses the earth's natural geothermal energy from the ground, making it up to four times more energy-efficient than conventional equipment. Safe, clean and better for the environment.
WaterFurnace Geothermal Systems
150 Industrial Ave. Carleton Place, Ont. K7C 3Y8 (613) 257-8282
AUTHORIZED DEALER
Carleton REFRIGERATION AND AIR CONDITIONING LTD. (613) 257-8282