

Regional wrap up

Accident claims life of 23-year-old

MITCHELL - Paul Geurts, of RR 5 Mitchell, died en route to hospital April 30 as a result of injuries sustained in a construction accident, reports the Mitchell Advocate.

The accident occurred at a farm north of Mitchell owned by Joe and Donna Chaffe.

The Sebringville OPP report that Geurts, an employee of J.F. Skinner Builders Ltd., sustained the fatal injuries when a large cement pump boom overhead broke during the pouring of cement for a cattle barn. He was struck and thrown to the cement floor, striking his head.

The Ministry of Labor was called in to investigate the accident.

Millennium Park Trail proposed for Goderich

GODERICH - A member of the Maitland Trail Association, Rod LaFontaine was at the May 4 town council meeting to present an idea for a new trail, reported the Goderich Signal-Star.

The trail, called the Millennium Park Trail, would run along the south bank of the Maitland River from the Highway 21 Bridge, behind Selinger Wood, Champion Road Machinery, the Mill Road area and the cemetery.

LaFontaine said the project was "long overdue" because the area has been ravaged by all terrain vehicles and people who use the area as a dumping ground. Council joined in LaFontaine's concern and agreed a subcommittee should be formed to gain more information regarding funding for the trail.

Town grant helps theatre continue

WINGHAM - A \$20,000 grant from town council will help ensure the future of the Town Hall Heritage Theatre.

Although theatre performances are going strong and the organization can cover its operating costs, the chairman of the theatre board of directors, Lee Grove admitted it needs help with its debt.

Along with council's motion to supply \$20,000 over a two-year period, the theatre must also include a few councillors on its board of directors.

VIA train schedules changing

ST. MARYS - As of June 14, passenger service will leave St. Marys at 6:32 a.m. Monday to Friday, arriving in Toronto at 8:50 a.m. Currently the train leaves St. Marys at 8:20 a.m., arriving in Toronto at 10:35 a.m. reports the St. Marys Journal-Argus.

Perth-Middlesex MP John Richardson recently made the announcement.

"People travelling to Toronto on business or otherwise will get there at a much more convenient time," MP Richardson said.

The morning train, which also stops in Stratford, Kitchener, Guelph, Georgetown and Brampton, will leave Toronto on its return trip at the same time, 5:30 p.m., arriving in St. Marys at 7:49 p.m.



Dogging for charity. The Royal Bank Exeter branch held a hotdog fundraiser for the Children's Miracle Network on Friday and will host another charity barbecue at the branch this Friday from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Hotdogs and cans of pop cost \$1 each. Pictured here are Brad Foster, front left, Stephen Holmes, Scott McGregor, Jordan Skochinski and his brother Craig with branch accounts manager for small business Ron Anderson and personal banking manager Michael Skochinski in back.

County weighs restructuring options

HURON COUNTY - The idea to toss Huron County's 26 municipalities into one bag may not be popular, but it will stay on the restructuring discussion table until further notice.

At its regular monthly meeting May 7, Huron County Council rejected a proposal to stop considering a one-tier option for county government.

Reeve Robin Dunbar of Grey Township said there is "overwhelming" support for two-tier government in Huron County and asked the council to stop "wasting time" and take the one-tier "off the table" for further discussions.

Reeve Mason Bailey of Blyth agreed with Dunbar and said the county should not be misled by apparent savings of a one-tier system.

"We can't dwell on money," said Bailey. "It's imperative we concentrate on serving the people."

Reeve John Doherty of Goderich joined the attack and said many constituents in numerous municipalities do not want a two-tier system of government.

"I haven't heard one single person in the town of Goderich say they want to go one-tier," said Doherty. "Let's get on with two-tier restructuring."

Reeve Laurie Cox of Goderich Township disagreed with Doherty and said he knows plenty of constituents who want to know more about potential savings and efficiencies under a one-tier system.

He said people are not enamored with one system over another.

"People just want service," he said.

Likewise, Reeve Doug Grant of

Bayfield said, "The real purpose of amalgamation is to save money."

He added the two things constituents most care about are taxes and service.

"If we don't explore this, we are not representing the interests of our constituents."

Dunbar said restructuring county government means more than finding the cheapest way to provide services.

He admitted some services could be more economically delivered under a one-tier system, but as for one-tier making the entire system more efficient, he scoffed at the idea. He said if that were true, the federal government would be the most efficient government in the country.

"How can we put a price on local democracy?" he asked.

Reeve Doug Miller of West Wawanosh said the question of restructuring has to consider economics.

He said if governance is the only thing in question involved, there is no need to restructure. However, he added, the reality is the province wants municipalities to find ways to save money.

As for what local ratepayers want, Miller said people are not overly concerned with who controls what in the county.

"To most people, name doesn't matter so long as they get service at a reasonable price," said Miller.

Bailey claims a dictatorship could well be the most efficient form of government, but he questioned whether or not the present county government wants to leave such a

legacy to the children of Huron.

"We must protect our children," said Bailey, adding any move toward a one-tier system would simply add to the "trend toward monopolization by bureaucracy."

Reeve Carol Mitchell of Clinton said it would be "premature" to stop considering a one-tier option at this time.

She supports a two-tier option, but since the county is now in the middle of a consultation process with the municipalities, this is not the time to drop consideration of other options, she said.

Reeve Bill Carnochan of Tuckersmith Township agreed with Mitchell. He too admitted support for a two-tier system of government, but until each municipality has a chance to present its views to the county, he did not want to drop consideration of the one-tier option.

Consultation with the municipalities is expected to be completed by June 9. Carnochan said council will then know if there is a consensus or a majority for one option, and at that time, a decision can be made to drop one of the options.

"We can make a decision at that time," he explained.

When the vote was eventually called, Doherty, Dunbar, Bailey, Reeve Jim Love of Hay Township, Reeve Ron Murray of McKillop Township, Reeve Roy Triebner of Exeter and Reeve Bob Szusz of Hullett Township supported ending further discussion of a one-tier system. The rest of the council voted to keep consideration of the one-tier option on the table for now.

Lucan on its way on being in bloom

LUCAN - Though the village isn't in the same league as Stratford or Goderich when it comes to floral beauty, Lucan is on its way to being more in bloom.

Councillor Perry Caskanette took it upon himself to organize Lucan's drive to become more esthetically pleasing under the Communities In Bloom program. He shared his proposal with the rest of council at last week's meeting which his fellow officials passed unanimously.

Caskanette's plan includes the planting of flower beds at both Elm St. (Lions) and Market St. parks as well as at the entry points into the village where the new signs will go. The plan calls for Lucanites to participate in a "perennial exchange" set for May 16 at 10 a.m. in Elm St. Park. Plant enthusiasts are asked to bring some cuttings of their perennials to the park so they can exchange them with someone else's cuttings. Participants are asked to bring an extra cutting of each flower/plant type so it can be planted in one of the village's new flower beds.

Caskanette provided sketches of the beds that were drawn by Lucan native Michael Paul who is taking horticulture at Fanshawe College.

Lucan Boy Scouts will do the digging and Caskanette hopes people will donate shrubs and other plants to make for beautiful displays at each of the parks and entrance points.

Invitations for Lucanites to participate in the drive went out in the mail on Friday, administrator Ron Reyrmer said.

The village is also launching a Communities In Bloom competition where participating homeowners

could receive prizes for the best new bed, best existing bed, best vegetable garden and best overall display. Area businesses that participate could win best floral display or box. Prizes will hopefully be donated by area businesses.

Caskanette also hopes to revive the Lucan Horticultural Society. Anyone interested in participating in the contest, donating plants or in setting up a Horticultural Society are asked to call the village office at 227-4253.

Caskanette also came up with an official flower for the village, at

least for '98. Aquilegia, known better as columbine, is a perennial flower that features multi-colored flowers (blue, red, pink, purple, yellow, white) and leaves that look like shamrocks.

Caskanette found the Irish-friendly flower while surfing the Internet. He said columbine is already planted in some Lucan homeowners' flower beds and noted parents should tell their youngsters the plant's seeds are poisonous.

And birders will like columbine in their flower beds — the flowers attract hummingbirds.

RESIDENTS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF BIDDULPH TOWNSHIP & VILLAGE OF LUCAN NOTICE TO DESTROY WEEDS

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons in possession of land in accordance with the Weed Control Act, R.S.O. 1990, Chapter W.5, Section 3.16 and 23, that unless noxious weeds growing on their lands within the Municipalities of Biddulph and Lucan are destroyed by date of June 8, 1998, and throughout the season, the Municipalities may enter upon the said lands and have the weeds destroyed, charging the costs against the land in taxes, as set out in the Act.

The co-operation of all citizens is earnestly solicited.

John Trott
Weed Inspector
Ron Reyrmer, Clerk
Village of Lucan

John Trott
Weed Inspector
L.G. Hotson, Clerk
Township of Biddulph

Ausable River bridge work on schedule

Continued from front page

Highway 4 request
Middlesex County, Huron County and the Town of Exeter have asked the province to resurface Highway 4 before the 1999 International Plowing Match near Dashwood.

Lawson is putting pressure on the province to have the highway south of Exeter resurfaced late this fall or early next spring. However, the province has scheduled the project for 2000 and she has not yet been successful in getting the province to bend.

CORRECTION NOTICE

We wish to draw your attention to the following in our current "Giant Outdoors Sale" flyer.

Page 16 Items #4, 15-pc. Drill Bit Set, 54-3629-0. This 3 year warranty does not apply to This product. Page 29. Item #8, paper napkins, 99-0977-2. Illustration is incorrect. Should show 'Scott' paper napkins, not 'White Swan'. Page 32 - Portable Booster Pac, 11-1550-8. Copy reads: Reg. 149.99, Sale 99.99, 1/3 OFF. Should read: Reg. 139.99, Sale 99.99, SAVE \$40.00. Page 33 - STP Fuel Injector Cleaner, 99-4620-6. Copy reads: 'Special Buy' 3.29 for #99-4620-6. This product # is incorrect. Should read: 'Special Buy' 3.29 is for #99-0770-2.

We sincerely regret any inconvenience we may have caused you.
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PUBLIC MEETING CONCERNING A PROPOSED OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT AFFECTING THE TOWNSHIP OF HAY

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Hay will hold a public meeting on **Monday, JUNE 8, 1998 at 8:00 p.m.** in the Township of Hay Municipal Office, 14 Mill Street, Zurich, Ontario to consider a proposed Official Plan Amendment under Section 17 of the Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, as amended.

ANY PERSON may attend the public meeting and/or make written or verbal representation, either in support of or in opposition to the proposed Official Plan Amendment. Written submission may be forwarded to J.A. Murray (address below).

IF A PERSON OR PUBLIC BODY that files a notice of appeal of a decision in respect of the proposed Official Plan Amendment to the Ontario Municipal Board and does not make oral submissions at the public meeting or make written submissions before the proposed Official Plan Amendment is adopted, the Ontario Municipal Board may dismiss all or part of the appeal.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION including the proposed Official Plan Amendment and background material is currently available for inspection during regular office hours at the Huron County Department of Planning and Development, Court House Square, Goderich, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

If you wish to be notified of the adoption of the proposed Official Plan Amendment you must make a written request to the address below.

DATED AT THE TOWN OF GODERICH THIS 13TH DAY OF MAY, 1998.

J.A. Murray, Clerk-Administrator
County of Huron
Court House
Goderich, Ontario
N7A 1M2
(519) 524-8394

Janisse Zimmerman, Clerk
Township of Hay
Box 250
Zurich, Ontario
NOM 2T0
(519) 236-4351

PURPOSE AND EFFECT:

The proposed Official Plan Amendment would amend the Township of Hay Secondary Plan by deleting those policies which allow for severances of those dwellings which are surplus to a farm operator and by deleting those policies which allow for severances of an existing residence by a retiring farmer. The amendment applies to all lands designated Agriculture or Restricted Agriculture in The Township of Hay.

EXETER TIMES ADVOCATE NEWSPAPER DEALER LOCATIONS

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| AILSA CRAIG
Steve's Variety | GRAND BEND
Barefoot Pedlar |
| BRUCEFIELD
Brucefield Variety | Country Market |
| CENTRALIA
Centralia Variety | Macs Convenience |
| DEVON CORNERS
Sunys Gas Bar | Mothers Pantry |
| CLINTON
Beckers | Shoppers Drug Mart |
| CREDITON
Jem Variety | Tenderspot |
| Jordy's Gas Bar | Wrights IGA |
| DASHWOOD
Doug & Nancy's | GRANTON
Granton Food and Video |
| DENFIELD
Denfield General Store | Granton Hardware |
| EXETER
Beckers | HENSALL
Erb's Garage |
| Canadian Tire | McTaggart's Market |
| Country Bakery | Ron's Health Centre |
| Darlings | HURON PARK
Huron Park Foodtown |
| Donuts Now | KIPPEN
Huron Sports Outfitters |
| Exeter Shell | KIRKTON
Kirkton Market |
| Exeter Variety | LUCAN
Beckers |
| Frayne's General Store | Clarks Food Market |
| Holtzmann IGA | Darlings |
| Huron Restaurant | Lankin Shell |
| MacLeans Home Hardware | PARKHILL
Beckers |
| McTavish Gas Bar | Hicks General Store |
| Seips valu-mart | McIntyre Pharmacy |
| Shoppers Drug Mart | Parkhill Variety |
| South Huron Hospital | ST. JOSEPH
St. Joseph Store |
| Tasty Nu Bakery | ST. MARYS
St. Marys Journal Argus |
| Triangle Discount | VARNA
Varna General Store |
| GODERICH
International News/Suncoast Mall | ZURICH
J & L Variety
Seyler's Market |

55 LOCATIONS TO PICK UP YOUR WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
To increase your traffic flow and to become an Exeter Times Advocate dealer, please call Sue Rollings 235-1331.