Kinmount Gazette

KINMOUNT 150TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE
A SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE KINMOUNT COMMITTEE FOR PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

April 15, 2009 Volume 1: Issue 3

Theatre Capital of Canada: Highlands Cinemas Celebrates 30 Years

Happy birthday to a Kinmount landmark. On May 1, the Highlands Cinema opens fir its 30th season. We often talk about "what puts Kinmount on the map", and our local cinema sure fits that bill. Anytime an outsider asks "What's in Kinmount?", our local movie theatre certainly comes to mind. It is a one-of-a-kind!

This year, Keith Stata is celebrating the 30th anniversary of operation in the current location. But the story goes back much further than 1979. Keith started in the movie industry at age 6. I won't give a date, but let's just say a lot of water has passed under the bridge since then. He dabbled in movie-making in the early years, but eventually he realized his success lay with the "showing" of movies and collecting of historical items related to the industry.

I remember watching movies shown by Keith in the basement of the Community Centre, Anglican Church Hall and then in the basement of his house. This was the site of the famous bed in the floor, but then everyone sat on the floor back then! In 1979 Keith took a large leap of faith and built a 58 seat theatre on the side of the new family home. It was his "rec room", and the one exit actually led through the kitchen! I remember having a talk with his mother leaving the theatre!

The Highlands Cinema got off to a slow start. Many people could not believe Kinmount actually had a cinema. Rumour spread it was actually a TV set in the basement! But under the old adage, "If you build it, they will come", Keith carried on.

The theatre was converted to 35mm in 1984. In 1986 a small projector museum, and a second theatre with 60 seats was added. In 1987 another addition was made to the museum. 1988 saw the construction of a third theatre with 80 seats, and additional museum space. In 1990 the second theatre was enlarged to 150 seats, and a new candy bar, and more museum space was added. A small addition to the third theatre was completed in 1991.

A large expansion of the museum, additional washrooms, and the addition of the fourth theatre was undertaken in 1995. In 1996 the fifth theatre, and a second candy bar was completed. In 1997 & 1998 further additions were made to the museum. In 1999 theatres 4 & 5 were enlarged and improved. The year 2000, saw further improvements to the existing theatres, and the installation of air conditioning. In 2001 more museum space was added. Just about every year has seen improvements to picture, sound, and sight lines to make your movie going experience more enjoyable.

The Highland's Cinema plays first run movies. When an ad says "Opening Friday at a theatre near you", I explain that means Toronto, maybe Peterborough & Kinmount! You know," the big 3". But it is not movies that make the Highlands special, it is the museum. Where else in the world do you enter a cinema through a museum? It is the atmosphere that drives the Highlands Cinema. The website says the museum is 4,000 square feet, but I prefer to measure it in acres! The complexity of the displays truly mean you cannot see it all in one visit. To a historian, it is paradise. There is usually congestion in foyer, partially by those in line to buy tickets, but also by those who are gawking at the foyer displays, mesmerized by the richness of movie history that attacks the patrons. And that is just the start. The twisting labyrinth of corridors, displays and history occasionally leads to "lost patrons". To the newcomer, it seems endless.

Another passion for Keith is his collection of antique movie projectors and related historical movie parapanialia. Keith has supplied items for many museum displays,

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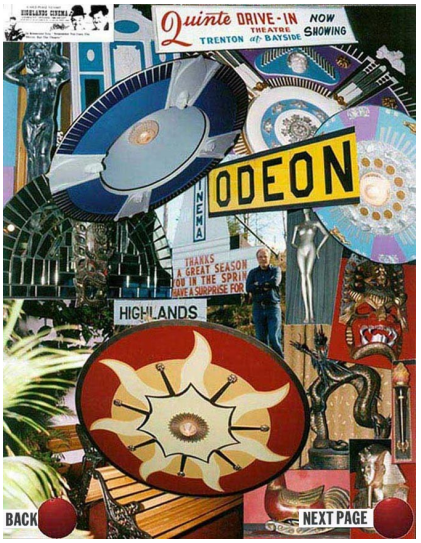
This image is a collage created by Keith of the interiors of the different theatres. Page 2, Keith as a young boy had a passion for cinema.



Movie Capital *continued from page 1*

movie shoots and special events all over Ontario. He has refurbished hundreds of projectors rescued from numerous cinemas and theatres. His preservation of movie history has made Kinmount famous.

Over 85 (and counting) TV, newspaper & radio articles have documented the uniqueness of the Highlands Cinema. Talk about putting Kinmount on the map! A "guest book" also tracks the long list of celebrities who have "checked out" the Cinema in the bush".

And that's not all! The Highlands Cinema operated from May to Thanksgiving only. During the peak summer season, up to 15 shows per night are on the schedule. Bus tours from all over come to see the movies and/or the museum. The Highlands is a favourite destination for school trips, ranging from kindergarten to college! Keith runs all 5 movie projectors himself! He prefers the older ones: they are better made he says.

May 1 is the traditional opening of many things in Kinmount: spring season, cottaging, fishing, gardening & the opening of the Highland Cinema. To see how most locals view the Highlands, just check out the children's stories on "what I like about Kinmount" in this (and other) edition. Or as the slogan goes; "In Kinmount, you remember not only the movie, but the theatre!" Happy birthday Highlands Cinema, Keith, Roland & staff: you put Kinmount on the map!

Neighbours and Friends: Gelert

Gelert is a former railway village in Snowdon Township, just up the line from Kinmount. The first settlers trickled in from The Bobcaygeon Road in the 1860s. The Haliburton Re-entrant of the Great Lakes Lowlands meant the Gelert area offered better farmland than most of the area, and even that was not saying much! The community's original name was Little Ireland, which reflected its Ulster heritage. The Orange Lodge was always strong in Gelert. The arrival of the Victoria Railway in 1878 kick-started the village. Gelert became a major rail station, the closest this railway came to Minden (7 miles). Businesses sprang up along its (short) Main Street and the railway station became the centre of town. Daily stages linked Gelert with rail-less Minden and all goods were hauled over the South Lake Road. The railway caused the settlement to change its name: first to Snowdonville, then Minden Station and finally to the more romantic Gelert. The last name had a tradition in Welsh folklore. An ancient king of Snowdon (a county in Northern Wales!) had a famous hunting hound named Gelert. One day the king went hunting but for some unknown reason, his best hound was missing. King Llewelyn's infant son was left asleep in his cradle. In the king's absence, a wolf attempted to attack the baby. The loyal Gelert fought off the wolf and killed it. In the battle, both Gelert and the infant were covered in blood. Upon his return, the King of Snowdon was greeted by the sight of a blood-spattered, empty cradle and a bloody hound. He jumped to the conclusion Gelert had murdered the child. In a fit of rage, he slew the royal hound with his sword. Gelert's dying yelp was answered by an infant's cry. Only after the dastardly deed did the King find the dead wolf, the missing child and realize the truth. The king was filled with remorse for rewarding loyalty with death, and commanded his bard to commemorate the loyal hound in a ballad.

Like many communities in the area, farming was not a lucrative profession in Snowdon Township. After several generations, the marginal land "played out" and the farms were abandoned. Likewise rail traffic began to decline with the advent of motor vehicles. Gelert diminished in size and with the abandonment of the railway, the last businesses were closed. Gelert was selected by author Ron Brown as a Ghost Town of Ontario in his series of books. While the village is not exactly "abandoned", it is a shadow of its former prosperity. But it still remains on the maps and in the hearts of local residents.

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Cultural Corner

Llewellyn and His Dog by W.R. Spencer

The spearman heard the bugle sound,
And cheerily smiled the morn;
And many a brach, and many a hound,
Obeyed Llewellyn's horn.

And still he blew a louder blast,
And gave a louder cheer:
"Come, Gelert, come, why are thou last
Llewellyn's horn to hear!
"Oh, where does faithful Gelert roam?
The flower of all his race!
So true, so brave -- a lamb at home,
A lion in the chase!"

'Twas only at Llewellyn's board
The faithful Gelert fed;
He watched, he served, he cheered his lord,
And sentinel'd his bed.

In sooth he was a peerless hound,
The gift of Royal John -
But now no Gelert could be found,
And all the chase rode on.

And now as over rocks and dells
The gallant chidings rise,
All Snowdon's craggy chaos yells
With many mingled cries.
That day Llewellyn little loved
The chase of hart or hare;
And scant and small the booty proved,
For Gelert was not there.

Unpleased Llewellyn homeward hied,
When, near the portal-seat,
His truant, Gelert, he espied,
Bounding his lord to greet.
But when he gained the castle-door,
Aghast the chieftain stood;
The hound all o'er was smeared with gore --
His lips, his fangs ran blood!

Llewellyn gazed with fierce surprise,
Unused such looks to meet,
His favourite checked his joyful guise,
And crouched and licked his feet.

Onward in haste Llewellyn passed --
And on went Gelert too --
And still, where'er his eyes were cast,
Fresh blood-gouts shocked his view!

O'erturned his infant's bed he found,
The bloodstained covert rent,
And all around, the walls and ground,
With recent blood besprent.
He called his child -- no voice replied;
He searched -- with terror wild;
Blood! blood! he found on every side,
But nowhere found the child!

"Hell-hound! my child's by thee devoured!"
The frantic father cried;
And, to the hilt, his vengeful sword
He plunged in Gelert's side!

His suppliant looks, as prone he fell,
No pity could impart;
But still his Gelert's dying yell,
Passed heavy o'er his heart.
Aroused by Gelert's dying yell,
Some slumberer wakened nigh:
What words the parent's joy can tell,
To hear his infant cry?

Concealed beneath a tumbled heap,
His hurried search had missed,
All glowing from his rosy sleep
The cherub-boy he kissed.

Nor scathe had he, nor harm, nor dread --
But the same couch beneath
Lay a gaunt wolf, all torn and dead --
Tremendous still in death!

Ah! what was then Llewellyn's pain,
For now the truth was clear;
The gallant hound the wolf had slain,
To save Llewellyn's heir.

Vain, vain was all Llewellyn's woe;
"Best of thy kind, adieu!
The frantic deed which laid thee low
This heart shall ever rue!"
And now a gallant tomb they raise,
With costly sculpture decked;
And marbles, storied with his praise,
Poor Gelert's bones protect.

Here never could the spearman pass,
Or forester, unmoved;
Here oft the tear-besprinkled grass
Llewellyn's sorrow proved.

And here he hung his horn and spear,
And there, as evening fell,In fancy's ear he oft would hear
Poor Gelert's dying yell.

This story is a traditional tale from a land at the foot of Snowdon where Llewellyn the Great had a house. Gelert was a grey-hound that was gifted to Llewellyn by his father-in-law, King John, in 1205. Today the place is called Beth-Gelert or the grave of Gelert.

Gelert's grave

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Earth Day in Kinmount

Situated perilously on the banks of the Burnt River, the village of Kinmount has always been prime territory for spring flooding. Strangely, the village has only flooded on 2 occasions in its 150 year history. In 1876 water inundated the Main Street. But by far the most newsworthy flood occurred on Easter weekend, 1928.

A quick thaw aided by heavy rains released the spring flood all at once, but it was the log drive that was the main culprit. Each winter, countless logs were piled beside the Burnt River & its tributaries in anticipation of the spring freshet. The sudden runoff floated these logs prematurely. The logs were swept downstream until they found a barrier, in this case the Kinmount dam. The logs simply piled up against the dam and fortified by debris of all sorts (including several farmers haystacks!), raised the level of the dam by several feet.

Water flooded the Main Street and other low-lying points like the rail station. Enterprising Kinmountians demonstrated their lumberjack skills by "poling" logs right into the stores! One resident calmly "rode" his log into Hopkins & Marks store, made his purchase and poled his log home. That's how true lumberjacks shopped!

Water flooded the railway station, climbing to the bottom of the fire-box on the big waiting room stove. The trains kept coming into town with the passengers climbing from the carriages into waiting boats to be ferried to high ground. The IB&O railway line was not so fortunate: the rails literally floated from their bed closing the line. Debris of all sorts blocked the tracks.

Wilf Hancock ferried the stranded Anglican minister back to Kinmount by canoe! (That took skill!) Somehow they floated over Furnace Falls without noticing! A railway car filled with 50 pound bags of salt was parked behind the Hopkins & Marks store. When the flood ended, all that remained was a pile of wet sacks. That was the only day in history when the Burnt River was salt water!

Finally the pressure was too much on the Kinmount dam and it broke. Another casualty was the old grist mill, located on the east side of the dame & used for the power plant. Tons of debris & rampaging water were sent cascading down the Burnt River. Kinmount residents were only too happy to share their resources with the communities downstream. The Great Flood was over!

Mayor Ric McGee gets a hand from Amelia, Simon and Julianna Austin to plant a tree in Austin Sawmill Park. Overseeing the project is Ward 3 Councillor David Hodgson, Yvette Brauer, Diane Austin, Joyce Brown and Diane Kernohan.

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The Legend of the Kinmount Plane Crash

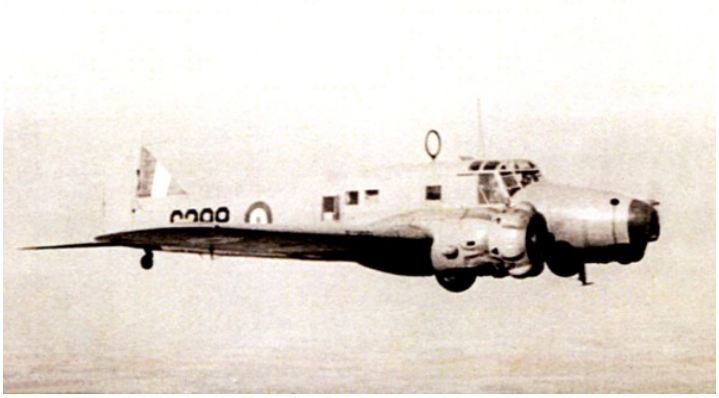
In 1944, World War II was at its height. Canada, through the Commonwealth Air Training Program, had hosted thousands of pilot & air-crew trainees scattered over dozens of air bases. Accidents or crashes were very common as these new pilots struggled to grasp the rudiments of flight before being shipped to Europe and the front.

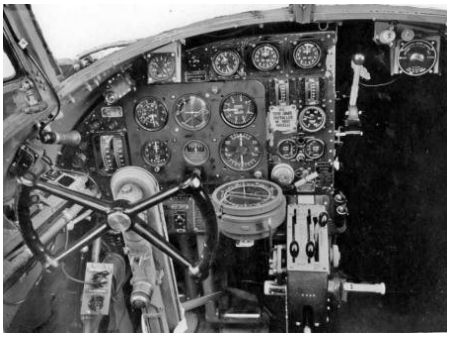
About 4:00 pm on a Saturday, a large Anson bomber appeared in the skies over Kinmount and proceeded to entertain the residents with a series of stunts. The big bomber went into a dive and disappeared amongst the trees near the Dutch Line just south of town. Evidently, one of the stunt dives had passed a little to close to the ground and the plane clipped the top of a huge elm tree and crashed into a small hill on the north side of the Dutch Line near Shadow Lake.

The crash was witnessed by 2 local residents cutting timber. Joseph McHale & Fred Stone were only 150 yards from the crash site and got a good look at the whole incident. "When we first saw the plane, it was quite high. Suddenly it started to nose-dive and came into a valley between 2 hills. When near the ground, it started to pull up and gain some height. Just on the rise of the hill, there stood a fairly tall elm tree. The plane hit the tree about 40 feet from the ground. Hitting the tree pulled the plane down and it crashed into the hill".

The 2 men were on the scene within minutes, but all 4 crewmen died on impact. One body was found 30 feet from the wreck, 2 more were located 50 feet away and the pilot was ejected over 200 feet from the plane. Military personel from Malton Airport (now Pearson Airport) arrived before dark & a guard was posted at the site. The crash caused quite a stir in Kinmount and a newspaper noted: " The crash site on Saturday & Sunday was visited by hundreds of people".

Top and Bottom: Avro Anson Bombers in flight; Middle: the cockpit of an Avro Anson Bomber





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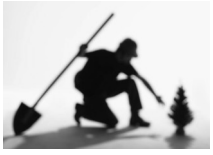

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Burnt River Telephone Company

In today's world, telephones are taken for granted: they have become a necessity. But 100 years ago, this was not the case. The only immediate communication was the railway telegraph. In rural areas of Canada, the only way to have telephone was to build it yourself. Thus a series of independent telephone companies sprang up all over the area. Norland (1907), Burnt River (1907), Kinmount (1908) & even the Rumney Settlement (1911) all formed private telephone companies. The Kinmount company did not prosper & was absorbed by the Burnt River Company by 1920.

To raise capital, shares were sold to local residents. If you wanted a phone, it was a good idea to buy shares! The original offering was 500 shares at $10 each. Enough money was raised to run lines to Coboconk, Fenelon Falls & Kinmount. There were switchboards in both Burnt River & Kinmount. Kinmount lost its phone service in the Great Fire of 1942 & was "phone-less" until 1946!

Now a word about the pre-Bell era telephones. You picked up the phone & dialed the operator (or central). Then the caller informed the switchboard operator who you wanted to talk to & you were connected. Most subscribers were on "party lines" (several on 1 line) and privacy was in short supply. Three or four party conversations were common! If you wanted to know what was going on in the community, the switchboard operator was a good place to start!

The party line meant each person had a separate ring. It could be 2 short, 2 long rings or a combination. You had to listen carefully: a missed ring could mean confusion! Urban residents in Kinmount eventually had private lines, but you still had strange phone numbers (2J2 was the writers home number!). Any "outside calls" were routed through the central switchboard and hence to another phone company.

By the 1950s, technology was changing fast (where have we heard that before!). The cost of upgrading the equipment was higher than the shareholders were willing to absorb, so Bell was approached about purchasing the Burnt River Telephone Company. On November 15, 1970 the Burnt River Telephone Company ceased to exist & the Bell 488 exchange was born!

An unknown man uses a candlestick phone circa 1912.

Burnt River Telephone Company, Limited, Burnt River, Ont.
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Cell Phone Manners

Adapted from Microsoft Business Centre

1. Tell callers when you're talking on a mobile, so they can anticipate distractions or disconnections.
2. Maintain at least a 10-foot zone from anyone while talking.
3. Never talk in elevators, libraries, museums, restaurants, cemeteries, theaters, dentist or doctor waiting rooms, places ofworship, auditoriums or other enclosed public spaces, such as hospital emergency rooms or buses. And don't have any emotional conversations in public — ever.
4. Don't use loud and annoying ring tones that destroy concentration and eardrums.
5. Never "multi-task" by making calls while shopping, banking, waiting in line or conducting other personal business.
6. Keep all cellular congress brief and to the point.
7. Use an earpiece in high-traffic or noisy locations. That lets you hear the amplification, or how loud you sound at the other end, so you can modulate your voice.
8. Never take a personal mobile call during a business meeting. This includes interviews and meetings with co-workers or subordinates.
9. Inform everyone in your mobile address book that you've just adopted the new rules for mobile manners. Ask them to do likewise. Please.

Telephone Etiquette, 1912

A century ago, telephones were so new, the company published a list of rules/ suggestions for using the new -fangled device. Here is Telephone 101

1. Don't use the telephone when there is thunder.
2. Don't imagine you have a monopoly of the telephone: other subscribers have the same rights as you. No person has the right to keep the line for more than 5 minutes at one time.
3. Don't forget to place the receiver on the switch hook when you are done talking.
4. Don't talk too fast or too loud.
5. Don't forget to treat your telephone as you would like to be treated if you were a telephone.

Don't think all the troubles you have are in the telephone.

By Observing the Following Rules Trouble Will Be Avoided

1. Learn your own ring and answer it. Let other people's rings alone.
2. If you find the line in use, wait a reasonable time. If someone else wants the phone, don't take up time with gossip.
3. Don't descend to the contemptible habit of listening to other people's conversation.
4. If any person not a subscriber wants to use the phone, don't forget to collect the charges. The operator has instructions to watch parties who are good at giving away what doesn't belong to them. Stealing telephone calls is stealing just as much as stealing money.

When you want to give a call, tell your name and the name of the person you want. When you get your party, don't say "Who's speaking?" but tell them who is calling. When you call Central don't say "Is that Central?" but give your call. Remember there may be someone else calling, and Central has not time for needless questions.

The Burnt River Telephone Co. Ltd, does not keep messages, and will not agree to get any parties not subscribers on their lines.

Sound advice!

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Kinmount Pioneer Society

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Wow! Kinmount Pioneer Society is 25 Years Old!

Local Sites: Highlands Cinemas

Left: Images from around the Highlands Cinemas. Right: The marquee for the 30th Anniversary opening weekend.

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Great Things Happening Thanks to a Trillium Grant

The Kinmount Agricultural Society is ecstatic to announce the awarding of a Trillium Grant for renovations to the dressing room/kitchen area of the arena. The Ontario Trillium Foundation has awarded the Society $150,000 to upgrade and renovate the kitchen & dining hall area of the arena complex. For winter use, this section of the building is used for dressing rooms, snack bar and spectator viewing. The grant also covers upgrades to the adjacent washrooms and remodeling of the heating and electrical systems to meet modern codes.

It was two years ago that the "old arena" was condemned as unsafe. The Kinmount Agricultural Society reinforced their commitment to the community by erecting a new structure on the foundation of the old arena. No grants were acquired for the new arena and the Society was forced to take out a large mortgage to erect the building in time for the 2007 fair. Anxious residents who followed the demolition of the old structure, waited nervously (as did the Fair Directors!) for the erection of the new building. In early August the materials arrived as "arena in a box'! Yes, literally that is how the new arena came from the manufacturers! It took a mere 3 weeks for the new arena to take shape. The building was completed for fair use with only a few days to spare! But we made it!

To convert the new structure for use as an ice arena, a further $40,000 was required. In an a heart warming display of community spirit, members of the Kinmount community rallied together, formed the "Bring Back The Ice" fundraising drive and raised most of the arena conversion sum. Unfortunately the arena was not available for most of the 2008 winter season. But this past winter, the arena has been operating full blast and being enjoyed by residents of all ages! Special thanks to the Kinmount Lions Club for their efforts in making the arena a daily reality during the winter months. The Kinmount Arena is a natural ice surface, which means we are totally dependent on Mother Nature for our ice. Every December (or thereabouts), a legion of volunteers gather to "put in the ice". It's a tough job, the main equipment being a garden hose. But the satisfaction of seeing "children" of all ages enjoying their skating drives these volunteers. It does say a lot about community spirit!

The final stage of upgrading this new facility is now underway. The Trillium Grant will allow the Society to complete the upgrade of the entire building. The kitchen/dining room area will be much more amenable for food operations during the fair and at other times of the year. And the washrooms: well, let's just say anything will be an improvement! The Society is planning to have the renovations completed in time for the Kinmount Kountry Jamboree starting June 26, 2009. Many communities in our area have magnificent arenas. But they are costly and require large budgets to keep operating. Kinmount, the little community with the big spirit, manages to operate "economically" thanks to our spirit of community & volunteerism. A little joke about volunteerism sums up Kinmount: "Noah's Ark was built by volunteers, the Titanic was built by professionals. " Kinmount is a Noah's Ark kind of community.

BELIEVE IT...OR NOT!

IN THE DAYS BEFORE CHANGE ROOM/SNACK BAR, AREA WAS ADDED SPECTATORS WATCHED FROM A BALCONY ON THE SOUTH END OF THE OLD ARENA.
THE HOCKEY NET WAS UNDER THE BALCONY AND TO SEE THE PLAYS YOU HAD TO LEAN OVER THE EDGE.

IN 1961 THE FIRST HOCKEY GAME WAS PLAYED IN THE OLD ARENA.

IN 2008 THE FIRST HOCKEY GAME WAS PLAYED IN THE NEW ARENA.

Bring Back the Ice

For decades the Kinmount Arena has been the heartbeat of the community during the long winter months. Unfortunately, last winter, the community suffered a devastating blow when problems were found that caused the arena, located in the Kinmount Fairgrounds, to be condemned. The damage may have been incurred by violent storms that struck the area in summer 2006. The important gathering point, owned by the Kinmount Agricultural Society, was the centre of activity providing a home for Kinmount Knights Minor Hockey, public skating, recreational hockey, Winter Carnivals, school and group outings and birthday parties. Everyone from toddlers to seniors reaped the health benefits of ice skating. The tremendous loss made a huge impact leaving a number of kids unable to play hockey or enjoy public skating. Many who frequented the arena two or three times a week only got out on skates that many times through the whole winter. The absence of the annual Winter Carnival was severely felt, as it is an economic attraction that also helps lift spirits when those February blues kick in. Tobogganing, a popular activity on the hills behind the arena was nearly non-existent as the snow was not ploughed for parking and there was nowhere to go and warm up or grab a hot chocolate. Winter in Kinmount just wasn't the same without the good old arena.

It was a tall order the Kinmount Agricultural Society to come up with a new building in time for the Kinmount Fair but they pressed on and were successful. The new building is the same size as the one it replaced and has been designed to accommodate a natural ice surface. However, to complete the inside rink perimeter, the Kinmount Agricultural Society is appealing to the general public to "help us help the kids of the community to have ice in the arena this winter.

The facility opened in 1960. Originally built to be an agricultural hall, the Kinmount Fair Board decided to allow volunteers to put natural ice in the building. There was a recreational committee that operated it at first, but for the past ten years or soothe Kinmount & District Lions Club operated the much enjoyed arena allowing lots of great memories to be made.

A donation of $60.00 will build one foot of rink perimeter. A total of 440 feet are needed. Any donation will be gratefully accepted. Donations of $60.00 and over will be acknowledged on a permanent plaque to be placed in the building upon completion. Donations of $250 will be acknowledged with an individual sign in the arena. There are four sponsor levels; Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum. These sponsorships will be acknowledged with an individual sign posted in the arena and their names will be listed on the appropriate plaque on permanent display. The committee is nearing its final goal, but remains a little short yet. Anyone wanting to contribute, don't hesitate to contact the Kinmount Fair, box 238 Kinmount or

The upcoming winter season promises to be the best yet for our skaters, big and small!

Happy 150th Birthday, Kinmount

Galway and Area Ratepayers Association Inc.

Coming Meetings:
July 11 - Reeve & Warden
Sept. 12 - Environment
10:00 am Galway Hall

Working for Community Improvement

Kinmount Kids' Corner

What do you like about Kinmount? Send your submissions to the editor at gdsscott@mail.com

Riddles Riddles Everywhere

What does a cat have that no other animal has?
Kittens.

What has two heads, four eyes, six legs, and a tail?
A cowboy riding his horse.

What always sleeps with its shoes on?
A Horse.

What is as big as an elephant, but weighs nothing at all?
The shadow of an elephant.

What fur do we get from a Tiger?
As fur away as possible!

School Days History

I like Kinmount because it is beautiful. The houses are beautiful. I like the way Kinmount is. Happy Birthday Kinmount!

My name is Brook Greenlaw and I am in grade 3.

I like Kinmount because in Kinmount we are all like a family. We all become family when we go to all of the community events. They bring us closer together. Another thing I like about Kinmount if the theatre. We are so lucky to have a theatre because Norland, Minden or Coby don't have them! Also, the Kinmount Fair is killin'! I love you Kinmount! Happy Birthday Kinmount 150 Years. You are old!

My name is Emily Parrott. I am 12 years old. I am a pathfinder in the Girl Guides Program!

I like skating, tobogganing, the movie theatres and the fair. I like it my whole family lives in Kinmount. The park is fun! Happy 150th Birthday Kinmount!!!

My name is Chloe Crawford. I moved to Kinmount when I was 2. Now I am 7. I have 1 sister and 1 brother.

The thing I like about Kinmount is that 97% of the time you are greeted with a big smile and also that you are friends with almost all of the town. There is never much traffic and there is always plenty of stuff to do for example the Kinmount Fair and Moonlight Mania. There is also plenty of wild life to see from chipmunks to deer. There is always an animal nearby. Kinmount is one of the best places to live in, at least that's my opinion.

My name is Michelle Weiler. I am a Girl Guide. I have 1 brother and a dog.

This is what I like about Kinmount. I like that people do not litter. I like the train station. Happy Birthday Kinmount!

My name is Madylin Rensink. I am 7 years old.

What I like best about Kinmount is that there is a grocery store for food. Also there is a park and it has 4 swings. There is also a ATM to get money from and a post office to send postcards and there is a lot of different kinds of postcards to send to other people. I like Kinmount because I like my house!!!!!!!!!! (My house is in Kinmount)

My name is Samantha Gamble. I am 9.

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Happy Anniversary Kinmount!!!

The Hot Stove Leak by Lynne Kilby

Thanks to everyone who constantly stops me on the street, phones or e-mails me to share how much they enjoy the Kinmount Gazette. We at the Gazette appreciate your feedback. Please remember to contact me at (705) 488-2919 or lynne.kilby@sympatico.ca if you have news to share at the Hot Stove Leak!

WHAT'S NEW AT KINMOUNT LEGION?

Beginning May 1, the jackpot at Friday Night Bingo at the Royal Canadian Legion increases to $300.00 Must Go.

Starting May 5th the legion offers a weekly lunch menu every Tuesday from 11:30 am – 2 pm. Hot Meals $6.00, Soup and Sandwich $5.00. Tea and coffee included. The menu will rotate weekly. For more information call Eileen at 488-2026.

THESE HILLS WERE MADE FOR WALKING

With the return of the good weather you may be interested in getting some outdoor exercise by joining the Kinmount Walking Group on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays (weather permitting). Meet by the pharmacy at 8:15 a.m. to enjoy a stroll around town. Sponsored by Kinmount Pharmacy.

SEE YOU AT THE MOVIES!

Highlands Cinemas re-opens for its 30th season on May 1. Visit highlandscinemas.com or call 488-2107 for details.

MOTHER'S DAY CRAFT

Visit Kinmount Public Library on May 9 for a special Saturday walk-in craft featuring a Mother's Day theme.

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

Treat Mom to an exquisite brunch at Harmony Farm on Sunday, May 10. Located 6 km south of Kinmount at 3290 County Road.121, Harmony Farm is open 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the occasion. Reservations are recommended. Call 705-488-3300 or visit www.harmonyfarm.ca

KINMOUNT FARMERS MARKET OPENS FOR 9TH YEAR

Come rain or sweet sunshine now's the time to head on down to explore charming Kinmount Farmers Market, opening Saturday May 16 for its 9th year. When the market began with just a few vendors, it was located on Main Street. Now re-located by Kinmount Railway Station at the gateway to Austin Sawmill Heritage Park, the market has grown steadily each year. Along with more vendors than ever before, most Saturdays this season the market features something new and exciting – live music!

Kinmount Farmers Market is a certified member of Farmers' Markets Ontario Association. The market offers organic and locally grown produce, herbs, shiitake mushrooms, plants, home baking, specialty breads, unusual preserves, herbal remedies, honey, candles, maple syrup, meats, beautifully hand crafted items and more. Your discoveries may both surprise and delight you, and you may learn something new.

More than 200 years ago, the town of Kingston hosted the first Farmers Market in Ontario. As pioneers settled the province, farmers markets continually increased in popularity until a serious decline in the 1970's with the creation of shopping malls. That trend is now reversing itself today as more and more people discover the many benefits of a more personal shopping experience. Shopping at Kinmount Farmers Market preserves an integral part of our heritage – the family farm. This WIN – WIN scenario is healthy for you, your community economy and your prospects of a greener future. What better way to spend part of your Saturday than by making it your tradition to stop by Kinmount Farmers Market?

The market is open 9 am till 2 pm every Saturday through till Thanksgiving. Remember to put your name in for the free basket draws held on long weekends. New and occasional vendors heartily welcomed. Reasonable rates. Call Marion Willemsen at 488-2612 for more info.

FREE QUILT DRAW

One of the ways Kinmount Artisans Marketplace will celebrate its 10th anniversary is by offering patrons the chance to win a beautiful quilt donated by Barbara Leffering. From Victoria Day Weekend through to Labour Day Weekend every purchase over $10 entitles customers to a free draw ticket. Watch for more specials coming up.

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The Hot Stove Leak cont...

BOOK LOVER'S PARADISE

On Saturday, May 16, visit book lover's paradise at the Friends of the Library Book Sale, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., lower level of Kinmount Public Library. Fabulous treasures at bargain prices lay waiting for you to discover!

The Friends of Kinmount Library is a volunteer group who supports and enhances the services, programs and resources of Kinmount Library through proceeds from book sales held the 3rd Saturday of each month. Your donations of good used books (no magazines, Readers Digests, encyclopedias or text books please) are always welcomed. Drop off any time at the book drop bin conveniently located beside the lower doors.
Kinmount is indeed very lucky to be one of the few branches within the City of Kawartha Lakes to boast a Friends of the Library group. For further information about Friends of Kinmount Library contact Virginia Dunn at 488-2014 or email at mrdunn@sympatico.ca.

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS

May 2 - Pitch-In Day - Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Railway Station to choose a route and get supplies. Refreshments served on completion.

May 16 & 17 - Kinmount Model Railroad Display at Kinmount Railway Station re-opens for the season every Saturday & Sunday.

May 23 - Legion Dinner & Loonie Auction, 5:00 p.m. at Branch 441. Call 488-2307 for more information.

May 30 - Kinmount United Church hosts its annual Hot and Cold Buffet at Kinmount Community Centre, serving from 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Tickets available at the door. For further information call 488-2687.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Ontario Early Years Mobile Outreach Program: Full pre-school program at Kinmount Community Centre, Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Call 324-7900 for info.

Sparks, Brownies, Guides & Pathfinders: Girls meet Monday nights for fun & adventure from 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Kinmount Community Centre. For information, call 488-2919.

Seniors Cards: Enjoy a pot luck lunch at 12:30 p.m. on Mondays followed by bid euchre at 1:00 p.m. upstairs at the Royal Canadian Legion.

Exercise Classes for **"49 & holding"** at Kinmount Community Centre. Drop in Tuesday & Thursday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Contact Janet at 488-2630 for info.

Kinmount Playschool: Enjoy crafts, snack, story and playtime. Wednesday mornings 10:00 a.m. - noon at Kinmount Community Centre. Call 488-1362 for more info.

Community Care Adult Day Program: Every Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Burnt River Community Centre. For more information, call 340-3278

Kinmount Public Library: Preschool Storytime and Craft ***every*** Thursday at 10:30 a.m.

Weekly Bingo: Try your luck Friday nights at 6:45 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion

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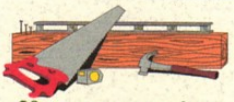
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CARPENTRY - ADDITIONS - RENOVATIONS
PLUMBING - SIDING - ROOFING - ODD JOBS

Spot the Shot Backgrounder

Edition 1 – the old, old (Somerville) Township Office at the southeast corner of the bridge. It was active from the late 1800s to the new office on the cemetery hill was opening circa 1990. The shot shows the basement from the river's edge. In the basement are 3 cells, where local offenders could be imprisioned… temporarily! Long ago, a local Justice of the Peace in concert with the Town Constable had the legal authority to lock-up drunks, suspects awaiting transfer to the County Goal in Lindsay, and others who posed dangers or flight risks. It was a safe bet the cells held mainly drunks. I am not sure what the number of cells signified? But I don't believe Kinmount was a particularly lawless town. However, the number of hotels (at least 3) in town did cause a steady flow of impaired customers, especially when the river drivers flowed through town in the spring. A visit to this dungeon was not a pleasing experience, especially in flood season!

Edition 2 – Swamp Lake Schoolhouse, Gully Road, Galway Township. This schoolhouse is still standing as a private retreat (cottage is not a good term here!). Students from Mount Irwin on the Galway Road and the south side of Crystal Lake attended this school section. This one-room school continued until about 1960 when it was closed & the students transferred to Union Creek School and then to Kinmount School. There are still a number of ex-students who reside in the area plus one teacher. I would love to hear stories from them for another edition!

Torch Relay

Imagine holding aloft the gleaming white torch carrying the Olympic Flame, running with it as the flame unfurls in the wind and passing by friends, family and community members of Kawartha Lakes as they look on with pride and awe.

Anyone can be a torchbearer in the upcoming Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch Relay from high school athletes to grandmothers, from regular folk to community activists and thousands more Canadians, including people from Kawartha Lakes, are needed to apply as soon as possible. The relay, which starts October 30 in Victoria, BC, is presented by Coca-Cola and RBC and supported by the Government of Canada. Interested torchbearer candidates from Kawartha Lakes may apply at www.iCoke.ca or www.rbc.com/carrythetorch. Both programs invite Canadians to share a brief story about how they plan to make themselves, their community or their country a better place.

The Olympic Flame will visit Omemee and Lindsay on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 as two of approximately 1,020 communities during its 106-day journey across the country. The torch relay will visit every province and territory, including Canada's most northern, southern and eastern points, before arriving back in the host province of British Columbia for the start of the Games on February 12, 2010. Each of the 12,000 torchbearers selected for the relay will receive a brand-new torch to carry the Olympic Flame for their part of the journey. The individual torches, manufactured by Bombardier, may be purchased by the torchbearer after their run to pass down as a family heirloom. The torchbearers will also receive a complete torchbearer uniform, designed by the Hudson's Bay Company, consisting of a jacket, pullover pants, toque and knitted red mittens. The winter white uniforms with bright bursts of blue and green feature the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Torch Relay emblem on the chest and the universally recognizable Olympic Rings on the back. The uniforms are a commemorative keepsake for the torchbearers to remind them of their part in the historic journey.

Kinmount Has our own Olympian! Carrie May Crego won the Bronze in 2006 in 5 pin bowling in Brandon Manitoba. Furthermore, in 2004 in Peterborough she won Gold and this April (2009) she won Bronze again in Lindsay both in 5 pin bowling.

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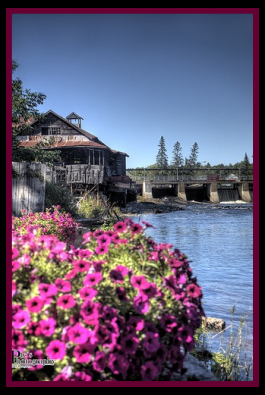

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Spot the Shot

Each week we will feature a photo from the Kinmount Area. We challenge you to identify the spot. Submissions of photos welcome. Please submit to the editor via email with a detailed description of the spot you have captured.

Last week's Spot the Shot: The Swamp Lake Schoolhouse.

From the Editor's Desk

Last week, while in the Freshmart, I noticed a funeral card announcing the passing of Dan Brown. Not too many people in Kinmount today would remember or have met Dan. He was born in 1918, which made him 91 years old. Dan had one of those "happy go lucky" personalities that always included a smile or a laugh. Or as those who knew him would say, he was a character.

Dan moved away long ago to seek his fortune elsewhere, working for the railway and eventually ending up in Sarnia. But he was always a "Kinmount Boy" at heart. Why else would his funeral notice be in the local store?

The whole incident caused me to reflect on the members of the community who were from his era, or Kinmount's citizens who are over 80. In my youth, history, tradition & community spirit was passed on by the seniors in the community. To a young person, their grasp of history and general wisdom was inspiring.

On my way home, I began to list Kinmountians over the age of 80 still with us. They include (in no particular order), Woodrow Wilson, Clarke Simpson, Joy Stange, Bernice Owens, Betty Scott, Marion Austin, Mary Wright. I realize it is dangerous to list names (and leave someone out!) & give a woman's age, but I think they deserve a special mention.

And if I have left anyone out (and I am sure I have!), please let me know. I think our seniors deserve a special "tip of the cap". They are a big part of the Kinmount spirit.

Thank you to everyone who is providing feedback about the Gazette. We the staff appreciate the "leads" and the material. Keep the feedback coming.

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