

# Kinmount Gazette



KINMOUNT GAZETTE COMMITTEE  
A SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE KINMOUNT COMMITTEE FOR PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

March 2011 Volume 3: Issue 5

## Kinmount Winterfest a Wonderful Success



### Inside this issue:

NEIGHBOURS AND FRIENDS	2
HISTORY OF BUSINESSES	4
KINMOUNT KIDS	9
OBITUARY OF JAMES MORRISON	10
THE HOT STOVE	11
EDITORIAL	19

As these photographs show, the adults had a wonderful time at Winterfest. Clockwise from far left: Joe McGee had his likeness captured in wood; The Munns family warmed themselves by the fire; Laurie Scott does a frosty pose for the photographer. For pictures of the children, check out our Kids Corner on page 9.



## Annual Dinner & Loonie Auction in support of the Victoria Pony Club and the Gazette

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## Friends and Neighbours: Catchacoma (Cavendish Twp.)



Cavendish Township is the township in Peterborough County immediately to the east of Galway Township. Despite being Galway's "twin", it has a completely different history. Galway was accessed from the Bobcaygeon Road and gravitated more to Victoria County & Kinmount than Peterborough County. Cavendish on the other hand was orientated towards Buckhorn & the rest of Peterborough County. Cavendish's topography was totally unsuited to agricultural settlement and attracted only a handful of hardy settlers who made a living from the lumber industry; at least until tourism came along! Being virtually deserted, Cavendish was twinned with Galway for municipal government and until 1998 was part of the Township of Galway-Cavendish. Amalgamation witnessed this municipality join with its southern neighbour to create the Township of Galway-Cavendish & Harvey. The Bobcaygeon Colonization Road had worked wonders for settlement. It was so successful, the government of Canada West (future Ontario) decided to repeat this success in other areas & built 2 more colonization roads through northern Peterborough County: the Buckhorn Road & the Burleigh Road. The Burleigh Road crossed the Kawartha Lakes at Burleigh Falls & headed north to Wilberforce & Bancroft via Apsley. The Buckhorn Colonization Road crossed the lakes at Buckhorn and wound its way north to Gooderham & eventually Haliburton village. It was the Buckhorn Road (today's

county road # 507) that gave birth to Cavendish settlement and its only post office: Catchacoma. Suitable farm land was available along the Road between Buckhorn village and Rockcroft, the area in the vicinity of Flynn's Turn. But north of Rockcroft the land turns rocky and totally unsuited to farming. In fact, southern Cavendish Township contained a maximum of only 6 farms, and very poor ones at that! A pocket of better farmland was found in the north-west corner of the township, but this settlement was tied to White Lake/Fortescue in Galway & Gooderham. The Buckhorn Road was eventually completed all the way to Haliburton, but was rarely used. Both Gooderham & Haliburton gained easier access via the Bobcaygeon & Monck Roads and the arrival of the Victoria & IB&O Railways rendered the north end of the Buckhorn Road useless for travel. In fact, the Buckhorn Road north of Catchacoma was often abandoned for long stretches of time; becoming impassable and not being fixed because nobody cared! Even as late as the 1930s, a venture-some motor car

traveller reported the Road "abandoned & impassable" north of Catchacoma. His vehicle was actually stopped by weeds & brush 6 feet tall in the roadbed! The growth of tourism did lead to a reopening of the Road, but for years it was famous for its "winding" road path through the rocks. The main industry in the township was lumbering. A fine string of waterways, highlighted by Catchacoma & Mississauga Lakes and drained south by the Mississauga River, were ideal for

lumbermen. At first, the companies floated their logs south to Peterborough. However, a mill was constructed at Scott's Rapids, between Rockcroft & Buckhorn. When the Road improved in the 1930s, Peterborough Lumber built a huge mill on Catchacoma Lake (1943) & cut the lumber closer to the source. The mill closed in 1966 as the lumber supply was exhausted. Tourism quickly replaced



*The world's smallest post office was located in Catchacoma. Canada Post operated this station in the summer only*



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## Friends and Neighbours, *cont. from page 2* Calls of the Wild at Winterfest



lumbering as the mainstay of Cavendish Township. The Buckhorn Road gave access to the larger lakes, and several tourist lodges sprang up in the early 1900s. Several families including the Westlakes, Cochranes & Windovers all operated tourist lodges over the early years. After World War II, private cottages came into fashion and the shores of the bigger lakes became dotted with cottages. Even today, there still seems to be room for more cottages along the shores of Cavendish's many lakes and the tourism industry is still expanding.

In the early 1920s, Cavendish was granted its one and only post office. It was named Catchacoma after the lake it sat beside and gained fame as Ontario's smallest post office! It was a summer-only post office run by the Cochrane family as part of their summer lodge.

When the Cochrane's retreated south in the fall, they closed the post office and literally abandoned the area! The post office was closed permanently in the 1940s. Today Cavendish Township has a vibrant tourist economy and is home to many permanent & seasonal residents. The community has built a fine community centre with library & fire hall in the old Catchacoma settlement area. The old Buckhorn Road has been improved and is now quite "passable" throughout the length of the township. Cottages have spread to most of the smaller bodies of water such as Green's, Pencil, Gold, Picard & Beaver Lakes. In the last decade, Cavendish has become the western edge of the Kawartha Highlands Signature Site, Ontario's newest provincial park. Times have really changed for Cavendish Township.



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## History of Trapping

One of Canada's first industries was trapping. Besides fish, furs were one of the earliest exports in Canadian History. The most prominent fur, beaver fur, was made into felt hats in Europe. To find more furs, Europeans explored the entire North American continent. The beaver is an emblem of Canada; gracing everything from the Canadian Coat of Arms to stamps to coins.

Beaver hats eventually fell out of fashion, but the fur industry was saved by fur coat fashions adopted particularly by females. The fur industry expanded to include other types of furs such as muskrat, fox, mink, otter, weasel and even bear & wolf. Later fisher was added to the mix, it being an introduced fur-bearing animal not native to our area. In Ontario before European settlement (1600-1784), the natives were the trappers and their furs were sold to European traders at numerous trading posts. Actually bartered was more appropriate for the natives traded their furs for European goods such as axes, guns, blankets, iron pots, etc. The only non-durable trade good was liquor, but the liquor trade was actively discouraged.

This area of Ontario was a very good trapping ground for natives. The fur bearing animals were mostly water-loving animals, and the Kawartha Lakes were prime trapping grounds. In fact, the Iroquois & Hurons fought a nasty war (1600 – 1649) over control of this prime trapping zone. The war ended with the mighty Huron nation totally destroyed and the Iroquois in

control of the Kawartha Lakes watershed. They were in turn dispossessed of this prime area by the Mississauga tribe from north of Lake Huron. But whatever tribe controlled the region, the fur trade rolled on. The furs were taken initially to Montreal, but later fur traders set up shop closer to the source at Toronto & Belleville and later they moved closer again to Peterborough & Orillia.

By the early 1800s, European trappers were replacing natives in our area. The trappers would travel to their area before freeze-up, build cabins to stay the winter and spend the season collecting furs. With the spring break-up, they returned to their summer homes. By the 1850s, settlement was pushing into the Kinmount area, and the trappers now worked right from home!

Few locals actually made a living exclusively from trapping. It was used as an income supplement; earn a few dollars over the winter months when farm work was slowed by the weather. Fur buyers would congregate in the larger centres in the spring to buy furs. Since few local commodities had cash value, fur trapping became popular.

So popular in fact that the beaver population was reduced almost to extinction by 1900. The Government of Ontario banned beaver trapping all over the area. If a beaver was spotted, locals would come from miles around just to see what it looked like! The Ministry of Lands & Forests enforced strict fines on anyone caught with a beaver pelt! But other

fur bearing animals such as muskrat, mink & fox were still plentiful & profitable. To try to control & regulate the trapping industry, the Ministry of Lands & Forests used numerous methods. To prevent disputes between trappers over zones (a very common occurrence!), the Ministry granted licences to registered trappers granting

them exclusive use of an area. Fur sales in conjunction with fur buyers were organized in the local towns. No furs could be sold unless they were inspected & stamped by the Game Wardens. And finally, the Wardens were strict in their policing of the trapping business, with fines & charges very common.

*Continued on page 5*

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## History of Trapping, *continued from page 4*

Kinmount was the site for one of the regular fur sales. Kinmount usually was home base for a Game Warden, the position from 1928 – 1963 being held by Wally Scott and later his replacement Austin Henderson. It was part of the Game Wardens job to stamp all the furs, and a steady stream of trappers would journey to the Scott house to have their furs stamped on non-sale days. The community hall hosted the event with buyers from Toronto & Montreal arriving to negotiate with the local trappers. The buyers would inspect a lot or group of furs and make the trapper an offer. Of course much haggling took place with the trappers often disappointed with the first offer. Fur prices fluctuated wildly, due so it was said, to the “market”. This was never truer than during the Great Depression (1929-1939). In 1929 mink & fox sold for \$45 each, but in 1930 they had fallen to \$15 and the comment for 1931 was “can’t give them away!”.

Gradually the local fur sales died out and the only market now in North Bay. Local trappers ship their furs to the big emporium sale at North Bay and their furs are sold without their actually facing the buyers. Basically you have to accept what the market will pay; and in many years that is not too much! Once again the fur industry is subject to wild fluctuations in demand & price. Most of the furs were shipped to Europe, but the environmental or animal rights lobby has shrunk the market in recent years. Asia has begun to replace Europe as the prime market for Cana-

dian fur. The trappers have worked diligently to regulate and protect their industry. Besides the organized zones, quotas for each fur-bearing animal species have been set up to make the numbers sustainable. Regulations govern what type of traps can be used. Regional trappers’ councils help regulate & promote the industry.



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## Legend of Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday, Mardi Gras)

Ever wondered what Shrove Tuesday, often called Pancake Day, is all about? And just what is a shrove? The word shrove is not a thing but a verb meaning to be forgiven for sins. Long ago this was a day for feasting and having a good time. People would go to church to confess their sins and would be 'shriven' before the start of the next day, Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of the 40 days of Lent leading up to Easter. Since rich food such as eggs were forbidden during Lent, one way of using them up would be to make pancakes. Some cultures refer to Pancake Tuesday as Mardi Gras or Fat Tuesday but all terms represent the same practice of feasting celebrations before Lent. Olney, England is the birthplace of one of the most unusual Shrove Tuesday practises. The legend of Olney's Pancake Day celebrations starts back in 1445. On Shrove Tuesday, every

Christian household would find ways to use the perishables before the long fasting season of Lent. Some held wild parties with rich foods; others made pancakes. And when the shriving bell tolled from the church tower, every parishioner was expected in church to ask forgiveness for their sins. Legend has it that one startled housewife lost track of time and began making pancakes for lunch. When she heard the bells, she knew that she was tardy and ran to the church wearing her apron and carrying a pancake filled frying pan. At that moment a tradition was born. In following years, neighbours got into the act and it became a race to see who could reach the church first and collect a "Kiss of Peace" from the verger (bell-ringer.) Today pancake races still take place not just in Olney, but around the world. Back in 1950, the city of Liberal, Kansas partnered with its English sister city

Olney to form an International Pancake Day Race. The kiss is still the traditional prize in both races. Racers must still wear a head scarf and apron and the runner must flip her pancake at the starting signal, and again after crossing the finish line, to prove she still has her pancake. Winning scores have traded back and forth between the two towns. On Tuesday, Mar. 8, 2011 at 11:55 a.m., the race goes on again, with the overall score standing at 35 wins for Liberal and 25 for Olney. Inter-



©Tony Margiacchi

national Pancake Day in Liberal has expanded into a four-day event that includes pancake eating and flipping contests, a cooking contest, and a parade. Other events include a talent show, an authentic English High Tea, the races, and a shriving service.

*Celebrate Pancake Day in Kinmount on Tuesday, March 8 by attending a Pancake Supper from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Kinmount Community Centre. Hosted by Kinmount & District Lions Club. Proceeds to Kinmount Playschool.*



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### Spot the Shot Recaptured



Last month's Spot the Shot was of the Burnt River looking north from the Bridge. This really caught the surface looking as black as asphalt and could very easily have been mistaken as a local highway.

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Winter Travel Through the Ages

Canada is a winter country. Winter travel has been both a boon & a curse. The natives used snowshoes as their primary winter travel gear with toboggans as the preferred method of carrying loads. Both snowshoes & toboggans were exclusively North American inventions and were readily adapted by European settlers. But both were unsuitable for large loads and were primarily individual instruments. In the dead of winter when the snow lay deep, most natives simply stayed put in their dwellings. Skis were brought from Europe, but were used almost exclusively for recreation. The native snowshoe was still the preferred method of individual winter travel.

The earliest pioneers used horse drawn sleighs to move large loads. Draught animals such as horses & oxen were introduced by Europeans and the arrival of the sleigh enabled larger loads to be moved. Actually the early settlers preferred the winter season before the snow got too deep to move their loads around. The roads (such as existed) froze up & were much smoother and easier to use than in the traditional mud seasons (rest of the year!). Bulky, heavy loads such as logs, hay & other farm products could be moved easily from place to place on the snow highways. Also, the rivers & small watercourses froze over making even smoother highways & natural bridges over troublesome streams. Of course winter travel had its dangers. Deep snow, especially snow drifts, virtually halted travel until spring. Ice was always dangerous & many a winter traveller met a cruel end going through the ice.

The lumbermen in particular developed elaborate winter transportation systems. Working only with horses or oxen, they ploughed their skid roads to haul logs, but only to remove excess snow. The snow pack skid roads neatly covered up the uneven ground and only required removal of trees to make them passable.

Steep hills presented a problem, but the lumbermen used water tanks to “ice” hills & “hot sand” pits to prevent downhill loads from getting away. They also used winches & cables on the really nasty slopes. The lumber camp actually had its own road crew to maintain the skid roads in good shape for drawing logs.

But for the lone farmer, winter was a time of limited travel. Most farmers simply hunkered down until spring, travelling only when necessary. Snow ploughing of roads did not come into fashion until the early 1930s. It was the phenomenal growth in the number of motor cars in the 1920s that led to the demand for easier Four season travel. Before the ploughed highways, car owners simply “put-up” their automobiles for the winter! But of course, the trains kept running if you were lucky enough to be close to a village. In winter, the train was often the only mode of transport to the outside world. Even the massive snowdrifts didn’t stop the iron horse... much!

Gradually more snowploughing led to more winter accessibility. Side roads & cottage roads, once placed in hi-

bernation for the winter, now became all season access roads. Four wheel drive vehicles became more popular after WW II, and this further lessened the difficulties of winter travel.

The arrival of the snowmobile in the 1960s was a marvellous leap forward in winter travel. The snowmobile could go almost anywhere there was snow and opened up both recreational travel and aided immensely trappers and others who travelled for work. In fact, the snowmobile pushed the noble snowshoe into the pages of recreation; motor power replacing human power!

Where once the country went into hibernation for the winter season, today the modern technological advancements have enabled winter travel to almost rival summer travel for convenience. No more do the locals hunker down for the winter, unable to travel around. Today’s “snowbound” time is measured in hours, not weeks!



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## Kids' Corner: Winterfest Highlights

There are a lot of things for kids to do in Kinmount during March Break. Check out these special activities: **Pot of Gold Hunt**, Monday March 14. Meet at 6:30 p.m. at Kinmount Community Centre. **Craft Extravaganza for Kids**, Wednesday, March 16, from 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at Kinmount Community Centre. **Pick Up Hockey** for high school age kids Wednesday, March 16 from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the arena. Can figure out what these other March Break activities are?

### Name the activity:

This fun thing to do is at a place that is open only in winter.

There are 5 of these to use at the library.

### Name the place:

Listen to stories & make crafts.

Sledding with friends is fun.

### Amazing Easter Egg Hunt & Easter Bonnet Contest

Calling all Kids – Come to Kinmount's 2<sup>nd</sup> Amazing Easter Egg Hunt at 1:00 p.m. Saturday April 23 at Austin Sawmill Heritage Park. Remember to bring your own basket. Get your thinking caps on now, to decide how you will create an Easter Bonnet for an Easter Bonnet Parade to be held prior to the hunt.



*Winterfest activities were a hit with the younger crowd. Clockwise from top left: Pancake Breakfast, Ice Skating, Pony Rides, Four-Man Skis; Cardboard Toboggan Races, Ice Sculpting*



## Obituary of James Morrison, April 12, 1902

A Kinmount correspondent of the Peterborough Examiner, writes as follows: As the late James Morrison was known to a large circle of friends throughout the district, the following sketch may be of interest:

James Morrison was born in Dunblane, August 11th 1826. His parents were Alexander Morrison of Gargunnock, and Jean Morrison of Campsie, Scotland

Alexander Morrison was a young man when the Great Napoleon was conquering all Europe. He enlisted in the 42<sup>nd</sup> (Black Watch) Highlanders, and fought under that gallant British General, Sir John Moore in his brilliant campaign through Spain, which terminated in the glorious victory of Corunna, where General Moore was killed, and Morrison was severely shot through the right shoulder with a musket ball and received a bayonet wound through his thigh. He used to jokingly say that though the French tried to take his life, they were the means of saving it. One day in passing a bread vendor's stall in a village through which they were passing, Morrison asked the proprietor for a piece of bread, the man shook his head with a scowl and made a pass with a knife. This roused the rage of the fiery young soldier and he raised his musket and fired at the man's head intending to blow it off, but the bullet only took off the man's nose.

The soldier was arrested immediately, court-martialed and sentenced to be shot. His belts were taken off and a party of his own comrades were about to take him out to be executed when the bugles rang loud and clear. The French were attacking! No time to carry out a death sentence then, every man and the condemned man also joined in the charge and drove the French back. It is said that though the French were the means of saving his life, he never charged them with greater spirit than at this time. Finally he reached his native land and settled down quietly as a peaceful citizen, enjoying a small pension as long as he lived

James Morrison was the youngest son and after he grew up he made up his mind to emigrate. In the year 1854, James Morrison, and Miss Mary Heddle, of Edinburgh, were united in marriage. Miss Heddle was born in the Manse, Parish of Firth, Orkney, Scotland. In the year '56, he calculated to go to Australia, but through some error, or mistake in getting their papers, he changed his mind and sailed for Canada, with his wife, mother, and infant son and landed in Peterborough in July. He lived in the town of Peterborough for about two years, working principally in the woollen mills, as he was a carder and spinner as well as a weaver. His partnership business in the mills not proving satisfactory, he moved into the Township of Smith, on the Communication Line, near the 4<sup>th</sup> concession, where he followed custom weaving, a business which at that time was very remunerative, and got a great deal of his work from the farmers of Ennismore. The last three years he was in Smith, he resided on the 3<sup>rd</sup> concession, nearly opposite where now stands the brick school house in S.S. No. 3 Smith.

His children were all born in Smith township, except the eldest, who was born in Scotland, and the second who was born in the town of Peterborough. The eldest daughter died at the age of nine, and was buried in the Little Lake Cemetery.

In the year 1869 he removed into the township of Verulam, having bought the west half of lot 26, in concession 10, and commenced farming, not that he cared for or liked the work, but he wanted to keep the family together. He lived there quietly, improving and cultivating his farm, and doing a little at his trade of custom weaving, until about six years ago, when he decided to give up farming and removed to Kinmount, as two of his sons and his two daughters were already

settled there. He was a keen fisherman and in summer was to be found very often on the banks of the Burnt River with his fishing rod and tackle.

Mr. Morrison was a staunch Presbyterian from his youth up, having joined the Free Church of Scotland, when a lad. He was an elder for some years in the Bobcaygeon church and also in the Kinmount Presbyterian Mission Band. He even took a deep interest in everything pertaining to the Presbyterian cause, but he was in no ways a bigot, as he attended the meetings of other denominations, principally Methodist and Baptists, and aided them whenever he could. For years he was superintendent of the Union Sabbath School in Verulam and Harvey.

In the early fifties while in Scotland, he joined the temperance movement, and always took an active interest in the cause. In politics he was a Liberal and always gave to others the same liberty of opinion that he claimed for himself. He was a great reader, and had taken the Bobcaygeon Independent from its first issue, Mrs. Morrison having now in her possession the first copy of the first volume. Of a family of nine brothers and sisters one brother survives, Mr. David Morrison of Falkirk, Scotland.



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## The Hot Stove Leak by Lynne Kilby

Though it is not the tallest mountain in the world, reaching the peak of Mt. Kilimanjaro is as close as you can get to the sun on this planet. It boasts this distinction because of its proximity to the equator. I wonder if my sister Nina was singing the Carpenter's song from the 70's, "I'm on the Top of the World" when she reached its summit Jan. 26. Nina spent over a year training for her goal. Nina declares "When I caught a far off glimpse of the coveted sign everyone climbing Kili wants to see, I'd already been climbing for 11 hours! The very sight of it made me choke back tears of joy and relief; funny how this goes (but isn't it true??), when we finally see our goal is within reach, we reach in and sprint for that last required bit of energy and motivation. That's what happened for me!" Nina raised over \$7,500.00 in pledges in support of a women's college in Nairobi. Way to go sister! To check out her adventure including a safari in Kenya, visit [ninaspencer.com](http://ninaspencer.com) and click on Nina's blog. There is a light at the end of the tunnel...spring is just around the corner. What do you love best about it? For me it's fresh air, warm sunshine, flowers and the rolling out of the BBQ. Bring it on!

Do you know what your purlicue is? If you do, bravo! I had never heard of this body part till the other day when I was watching Breakfast Television. It was then I found out that your purlicue is the web space between your thumb and your forefinger.

Who would have guessed?

Keep smiling and keep visiting [kinmount.ca](http://kinmount.ca) your porthole to our village. Please contact me at 705-488-2919 or [lynne.kilby@sympatico.ca](mailto:lynne.kilby@sympatico.ca) to share or leak news through the Hot Stove Leak.

### GAZETTE GIVES THANKS

Each year the Pearson family donates profits from the annual Community Sleigh Rides to a notable community cause. This year the Gazette was selected as the lucky recipient of \$300.00. It is support such as this that keeps the Gazette coming to you. We all owe BIG THANKS to the Pearson family for their continued community support.

### THE WONDERS OF WINTERFEST

Crowds of folks turned out for fresh air and fun at Kinmount Winterfest Sunday, Feb. 13. Wonders included fine weather, amazing attendance, the Get Ahead Carvings Demonstration, the Fur Trappers Booth, the Wildlife Caller and a live performance from Kinmount's own "Happy Feet Crew". Lorraine Turcotte's wonderful Valentine Decorating spiced up the Community Centre & the Arena. Another wonder, the Ice Sculpturing Demonstration had crowds ogling to witness the transfor-

mation of a huge block of clear ice into a Kinmount Knights Hockey Player. Amazing! Winners of the Incredible Cardboard Toboggan Contest, dubbed The Downhill Dash, were: 6 & under - Best Decorated - Kaylynn Shaw, Farthest Distance - Aden Addison, ages 7 - 12 - Best Decorated - Madylin Rensink & Natasha Austin, Farthest Distance - Simon Cloutier-Austin, ages 13+ - Farthest Distance - Michelle Weiler. Besides receiving a personal plaque, their names will be inscribed as the 2011 winners on the annual plaque displayed year round at Gateway Variety. Other winners were: Hockey Skills Competition - Chloe & Darius Crawford, Michelle Weiler & Megan Dier, Downhill Dash Colouring Contest - Kaylynn Shaw, Pick the Joker - Shawn Crego, Chuck-a-Puck - Brook Trevena, Guess the Candy Hearts - Sierra Kelly, Valentine Scavenger Hunt - Michelle Weiler, Hunter Kelly & Olivia Lee, Chili Contest - 1st place Champion Chili Maker - Jamie Jones (who defended and successfully upheld his 2010 title), 2nd - Andrew Austin, 3rd - Doug Pearson. A sign displayed at Winterfest thanked all the wonderful businesses & individuals from Kin-

mount, Minden & Coboconk who donated prizes. To view the list of prize donors visit [kinmount.ca](http://kinmount.ca). How wonderful of the Legion to "capture the spirit" with their Happy Winterfest Display at the corner of their parking lot. Sincere thanks to all who supported and participated at Winterfest in so many wonderful ways. It was truly a wonderful day!

### SENATOR HOCKEY TICKETS WINNER

Congratulations to Melissa Goodliff, winner of free Senators Hockey tickets from the Kinmount Freshmart monthly draw of Feb. 20. Melissa won 2 Ice Level tickets plus overnight accommodation to see the Ottawa Senators vs Philadelphia Flyers game Feb. 25. Customers receive one ballot for every \$50.00 purchase (excluding tobacco).

### ARE YOU LOONIE FOR THE GAZETTE?

We sure hope so! Come show how "nuts" you are about it by attending the Annual Dinner & Loonie Auction in support of the Gazette & the Victoria Pony Club. The event takes place Saturday, March 5 at Galway Hall. Social Hour begins at 5:00 p.m. Mingle with the crowd and browse the items up for auction. Make sure to check out the multitude of items up for grabs in the Country Raffle too. A delicious meal of Ham & Scalloped Potatoes

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## The Hot Stove Leak *continued from page 11*

comes your way at 6:00 p.m. followed by an evening of fun with “Loonie” auctioneer Doug Pearson. Can’t make it? How about donating an item or service to demonstrate your support? The Gazette depends on funds from this annual event to aid in covering printing and postage costs.

### PANCAKE TUESDAY SUPPORT KINMOUNT PLAYSCHOOL

In support of Kinmount Playschool, Kinmount & District Lions Club hosts a Pancake Supper on Pancake Tuesday, March 8. Cost for the supper is by donation. Kinmount Playschool has been providing a valuable social experience for the little ones of our community for an amazing 27 years! Thanks to the efforts of Christine Weerdenburg & Michelle Barkwell who initiated the playgroup, hundreds of area children have fond memories. Playschool’s format has remained constant over the years. With the security of Mom, Dad or their caregiver on hand, the children learn about sharing & following routines. The group meets Monday & Wednesday mornings from 10:00 am till noon at Kinmount Community Centre. Kids enjoy playtime, craft making, stories, songs and snacks. The children also take part in tidying up. It’s the perfect setting to meet new friends, not just for the kids but for adults too. Additionally, adults benefit from sharing information and parenting ideas. The playgroup is visited by Ontario Early Years Outreach Program the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of each month. For more information about

Kinmount Playschool call Liz Crego at 705-488-3044. Support the Playschool kids by dining out on Pancake Tuesday between 5:30 p.m. & 8:00 p.m. at Kinmount Community Centre.

### PARACHUTE ON THE FLY

Playschool’s parachute seems to be missing from the Community Centre. Does anyone know where it is? For 15 years Playschool kids and the Brownies have enjoyed cooperative circle play with a multi-coloured neon 12’ parachute. It is likely misplaced in some obscure spot but in any case this favourite activity is sorely missed. Replacement cost is approximately \$175. Users of the hall are asked to keep an eye out for it. If you have any information please call 705-488-3044.

### FIRST IMPRESSION RESULTS

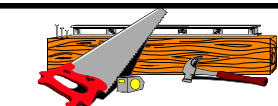
Turns out we are not the only ones who love Kinmount. Late last August a team from Apsley visited our town through the government funded First Impressions Program. They were particularly taken with our outstanding flowers, beautiful signage, the rail trail and the Artisan’s Marketplace. Results of their findings shared at a community meeting Jan. 26, provides a sense of how Kinmount is seen through the eyes of visitors. The Apsley team presented a slide show detailing their first impressions on the following: entering the community, housing & residential areas, education & health, social & emergency services, local economy, industry, commercial & government services, tourism & recreation,

public infrastructure, culture & heritage, environmental sustainability, and information from residents. In their opinion the most outstanding features of Kinmount were the floral program, the Artisan’s Marketplace, the waterfront & rail trail, the Fairgrounds & Highlands Cinemas. The study requires teams to name 5 positive things about the town they are visiting. The Apsley team found they had to extend this number when reviewing Kinmount. They whittled down to 7 positive things noting their difficulty arriving at this number. The 7 positive things were town sewer & water, the floral program, the Highland’s Cinema, the Farmer’s Market, the Artisan’s Marketplace, the Kinmount Fair and signage. They felt the 5 biggest challenges facing Kinmount were the lack of local educational, child care & government services, lack of services for seniors, the need for more retail/food specialty stores, keeping tourist attractions open all week long during the summer season, and finally keeping visitors & residents in town via increasing employment opportunities &

economic development. From their first impressions, the team felt 5 potential opportunities available to Kinmount were the opportunity to capture & retain more of the tourist market by expanding retail businesses & hours of operation, keeping visitors in town throughout the week, by keeping tourist attractions open during tourist season, providing recreation services & equipment specific to the niche markets (for example, setting up a rental facility for bikes, canoes & paddleboats to capitalize on the rail trail & river front). Some of the main street shops could be refreshed, painted & fixed up. The team suggested more coordination with businesses and the committee responsible for planning & economic development would stimulate more tourism and make Kinmount a primary destination.

### MARCH BREAK KIDS COMPUTER WORKSHOP

Safari Adventure Computer Workshop for kids takes place at Kinmount Public Library on Saturday, March 12, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Registration required. De-



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Hot Stove Leak, continued from p. 12

tails available at the library or by calling 705-488-3199.

MARCH BREAK SKATING

Keep your fingers crossed. As long as the ice holds out there will be Public Skating from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. throughout the week during March break. Helmets mandatory. Remember to bring along a sled for some glorious fun in the sun (hopefully) on the hills.

MARCH BREAK

POT OF GOLD HUNT

Weather permitting, girls of the 1<sup>st</sup> Kinmount Unit of Sparks, Brownies & Guides invite ALL kids to join them in a hunt around town to find a “Pot of Gold” Monday, March 14. Follow the clues to the Pot of Gold to receive a special treat. Meet at 6:30 p.m. at Kinmount Community Centre.

MARCH BREAK

STORYTIME & CRAFTS

Double the fun at Kinmount Library this week! Storytime & crafts take place as usual Tuesday March 15 at 11:15 a.m. with librarian Maryanne Dobsi and then again on St. Patrick’s Day, Thursday March 17, at 11:00 a.m. with Bev from Ontario Early Years.

MARCH BREAK

CRAFT CREATIONS

This kids crafts only program at Kinmount Library takes place the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month from 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

MARCH BREAKCRAFT

EXTRAVAGANZA FOR

KIDS

On Wednesday, March 16, Kinmount Artisan’s Marketplace hosts their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual March Break Craft Extravaganza for Kids. The artisan’s enjoy giving back to the community by stirring the children’s imagination and artistic talents. The group puts out a tremendous effort to provide assorted craft stations that offer kids flexibility to choose things they are particu-

larly interested in. The program features a St. Patrick’s Day flavour and runs from 9:30 a.m. to noon at Kinmount Community Centre. Treats & drinks provided. This activity is free.

PICK UP HOCKEY

Get together Wednesday nights from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. for a game of Pick Up Hockey at Kinmount Arena. This activity is restricted to those of high school age and older. Cost to play \$5.00. Snack Bar open.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 5 - Supper & Loonie Auction

at Galway Hall in support of the Kinmount Gazette & Victoria Pony Club. Social Hour 5:00 p.m., Supper 6:00 p.m. For tickets or to donate prizes call 705-488-2547.

March 8 - Pancake Supper in support of Kinmount Playschool, 5:00 p.m. at Kinmount Community Centre. Hosted by Kinmount & District Lions Club.

March 12 - Computer Workshop for Kids, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at Kinmount Library. Registration required.

March 14 - Pot of Gold Hunt, Weather permitting, kids meet at 6:30 p.m. at Kinmount Community Centre. Hosted by Kinmount Sparks, Brownies & Guides.

March 15 - Craft Creations for Kids, 5:00 p.m. at Kinmount Public Library.

March 16 - Craft Extravaganza for Kids featuring a St. Patrick’s Day Theme, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Kinmount Community Centre. Hosted by Kinmount Artisan’s Marketplace.

March 16 - Big Buck Bid Euchre 11:00 a.m. at Kinmount Legion. Cost \$10 includes lunch.

March 17 - Storytime with Bev from Ontario Early Years, 11:00 a.m. at Kinmount Library.

March 19 - Friends of the Library Book Sale, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. lower level Kinmount Public Library.

March 19 - St. Patrick’s Game Show/Dance, 8:00 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion. DJ Paul Wilson. Cost \$5.

March 30 - Diners Dinner 12:00 p.m. at Burnt River Centre. Cost \$7. \$

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

THE KINMOUNT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Arena Hours

Depending upon Ice Availability

Pick-up Hockey

Wednesday: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Public Skating

Friday: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Saturday: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Sunday: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Minor Hockey Sunday 1:00pm – 3:00 pm

Ice Rentals Available - Doug Pearson 705-488-2547

Kinmount Walking Group: Meet downtown Monday, Wednesday & Fridays, 9:00 a.m. Call 705-488-3053.

Tai Chi: Mondays & Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at Galway Hall. Contact 705-286-1444.

Kinmount Playschool: Monday & Wednesday, 10:00 a.m. - noon at Kinmount Community Centre. Ontario Early Years Mobile Outreach visits the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday each month.

Seniors Cards: Enjoy potluck lunch, 12:30 p.m. Mondays followed by bid euchre at 1:00 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion.

Kinmount Sparks, Brownies, Guides & Pathfinders: Mondays, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Kinmount Community Centre.

Preschool Storytime: Tuesdays, 11:15 a.m. at Kinmount Public Library.

Kinmount Public Library Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. & Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Fitness & Yoga: Tuesday & Thursday mornings at Kinmount Community Centre. Fitness 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Yoga 10:15 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Call Janet Dalzell at 705-488-2630.

Evening Yoga: Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. at Kinmount Community Centre. Call Gail Holness at 705-455-9294 or visit holnessyoga.com.

Pick Up Hockey: For high school aged students and up, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at Kinmount Arena. Cost \$5.00.

Open Meditation: Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. at the Dharma Centre, 1886 Galway Road. Visit dharmacentre.org or call 705-488-2704 for more information.

Friday Night Bingo: 6:45 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion.

Self-defence & Fitness Class - Sundays, 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. at Galway Hall. Call 705-488-2612 to register.



## Kinmount Gazette

### In The Lions Den *by Janice Davidson*

The coming of spring always brings a flurry of activity planning in our community. All of our town's committees, clubs and associations are excited about all the fun and fabulous upcoming events that are being organized for our families and friends. It is amazing how such a small town can unite and accomplish so much. (Together we stand, divided we fall.)

The Kinmount Lions have a couple of events in the works for the next two months. The first is a Pancake and Peameal Bacon Dinner held on Tuesday March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at the Kinmount Community Center from 5:30 pm to 8:00 pm. The cost is a donation, which will go to the Kinmount Playschool. This is a worthy organization that I believe almost every family in this community has belonged to in some way at some time. Watch for our yellow flyers around town and please come and enjoy this tasty event. Also on April 13<sup>th</sup> we are planning our second annual Easter Bingo. There will be turkeys, hams and cash prizes. It promis-

es to be a fun night for all. The time and place will be in next months Gazette as well as in local advertisements.

And that is just the tip of the iceberg. There is a lot more to come.

The Kinmount Lions is a noted and respected organization that does good works and strives to give back to the community and surrounding areas in ways of support, donations and fun events. If anyone is interested in learning more about us or wants to join in, feel free to drop into one of our meetings, held at 7 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday of each month in the lower level of Kinmount Library. We are always looking for new ideas and helping hands.

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## John McGrath Branch 441 Royal Canadian Legion

*by Cathy King*

We were saddened at the loss of Fran Ewles, a member and long time friend of our Legion, who recently passed away in Florida after a long illness. Fran will be missed by all her family, friends and comrades.

We must advise that the monthly Tuesday lunches have been suspended. The last Tuesday lunch was held on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. We wish to thank everyone who helped out and who came out and supported our lunches. Joan, your delicious liver & onion meals are going to be missed. As an alternative to the Tuesday lunches we hope to have an announcement later this spring.

If you like dancing and if you like game shows, mark your calendar for Saturday March 19<sup>th</sup> at 8pm. We are hosting a Special St. Patrick's Game Show/Dance which will be run by the popular D.J. Paul Wilson. Cost is only \$5 for this fun evening. Come out and test your "Irish Luck and your skills".

Although it is some months away, we are preparing for our 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

this year. We are hoping to expand on our albums and would very much appreciate if anyone has any stories or pictures of the Legion or events that they would like to share. All pictures will be returned to the owners. If you are interested, please contact our President, Mary Lou or myself (Cathy King).

HAPPY SPRING !!!



*Legion Winterfest Spirit*



## What is a Loonie Auction?

Loonie Auctions are a very popular and effective way of raising funds in our area. People have fun, they don't have to be rich to participate and a community cause receives support. It's all good.

If you've never attended a Loonie Auction you may be wondering how one works. In a normal auction an item is bid on and the price keeps going up until no one bids any higher. A Loonie Auction works a little differently. Items and services donated by local businesses and community individuals are set on a table for display. Each member of the audience is supplied with a sheet of paper and pencil. It's best to bring your own loonies but change is usually available. A container for the loonies is placed every so often at each table. Around the room are volunteers who periodically empty the loonie containers. When the auctioneer chooses an item up for bid,

participants wishing to bid on that item raise their hands. The auctioneer acknowledges each bidder by pointing at them and telling them their number which they write down on their paper and toss a loonie into the container. This goes on and on for however long depending how popular the item is. People may buy more than one number if they wish to. When the bidding stops, the auctioneer pulls a number from his number bucket and whoever has that number wins the prize. Then participants scratch out their number and the whole process begins again with the next item. Many, many dollars may be raised for an item, with the winner having only spent \$1 or \$2. How sweet of a deal is that?

*For a live demonstration come to the Kinmount Gazette & Victoria Pony Club's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Dinner & Loonie Auction, Saturday March 5, at Gateway Hall.*

## Dorothy's Delights

*By Dorothy Heath*

Irish recipes for March.

*Irish Soda Bread Muffins*

1 1/2 cups a/p flour  
3/4 cup w/w flour  
2 tsp baking powder  
1/4 tsp baking soda  
1/2 tsp salt  
1/3 cup sugar  
1 1/2 cups currants  
1/2 tsp caraway seeds  
1 egg  
1 cup buttermilk or sour cream  
1/3 cup oil  
coarse sugar for sprinkling on tops

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Line standard muffin cups with papers. Mix flours, bkg pwdr, soda, salt, sugar, currants and caraway seeds. In a separate bowl mix eggs, buttermilk and oil.

Stir the wet ingredients into the dry stirring as little as possible. Fill the muffin papers 3/4 full with this stiff batter (it will mound up in cups). Bake for 20 min or until done. Cool in pan for 5 min. then tip out and cool on a rack. Serve with butter and jam or plain.

Irish Whiskey Cake

1/2 cup butter  
1 cup sugar  
3 beaten eggs  
1 cup flour  
1/2 tsp baking powder  
1/4 tsp nutmeg  
1/4 cup milk  
1/4 cup molasses  
1/4 tsp soda  
1 lb raisins  
2 cups walnuts  
1/4 cup Irish whiskey

Cream the butter and sugar. Add the beaten eggs. Mix the dry ingredients and add them to the creamed mixture. Add the milk. Mix the soda and molasses and add. Add the raisins, nuts and whiskey and stir well. Pour into a greased and floured loaf pan and bake at 300 degrees for 2 hours



## History of Kinmount Businesses: Lot 8 East of Main Street

The current site of Taylor's Pioneer Gas Bar has always served the transportation industry. The site emerges in the 1870s as a blacksmith shop, ideally located at the corner of the Bobcaygeon & Monck Roads. William Macdonald was the first blacksmith to practice here, followed by William Davidson, Robert McKee, Robert Davidson and William Morrison in 1883. The Morrisons (William, John & James) ran a series of small businesses from the blacksmithy including carriage maker & carpet weaver. Members of the Morrison family had been weavers in Scotland before immigrating to Canada. They settled first in Smith Township near Peterborough, and then moved to Verulam Township before relocating in 1870s to Kinmount, then a thriving boomtown. Another son, Alexander, was a farmer and has left his journals to posterity. The Kinmount Gazette has published some excerpts from the Alexander Morrison diaries. The Morrison family were Scottish through and through, and brought their heritage & traditions with them. (See James Morrison obituary in this edition of the Gazette). One old Celtic tradition was Beltane Fires, or its more modern

version, the "Need-Fire". The tradition was born of ancient superstition when on May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year a purification fire was built to scare off evil spirits & purify the farmer's livestock. This need-fire was kindled on a prominent hill, closest to the heavens and readily visible to everyone in the area (including the evil spirits!). Over time, the tradition evolved into a celebration of the coming of spring (May Day). But celtic tradition also allowed "Need-Fires" to be used at any time a special occasion dictated a special blessing. For several years, in the late 1800s, Kinmount was the site of such a need-fire, held on July 1 to celebrate the birth of Canada: literally a Canada Day celebration. The ceremony was held at midnight and William Morrison would transport his big blacksmith's anvil to the rocks high above the east bank of the Burnt River. At dawn, the anvil was "fired" to create the need-fire. The common method was to place a charge of gunpowder until the anvil and set off an explosion. On one occasion, too much gunpowder was used, the anvil was blown into the air and the horn or point of the anvil was bent upon land-

ing! With William Morrison's departure for Western Canada in 1903, the "firing the anvil ceremony" was discontinued. The next blacksmith on the site was Joseph Walker. In the early stages of the motor car, he constructed his own "home-made" (or should we say Kinmount-made) version & proudly chugged up & down the Main Street to show off his mechanical prowess. Walker's jalopy lacked lights, and on one occasion when he returned in the dark, his wife was forced to walk ahead with a lantern to light the way! Evidently speed was not an issue. Joseph Walker sold his business to Roy Umphrey in 1922. By then motor cars were becoming more common and the business gradually evolved into a blacksmith/auto repair shop.

In 1946 Pat Taylor became the proprietor of the shop and it remains in the hands of the Taylor family to this very day. Pat had a construction/contracting business and was a car dealer on the side. He operated 2 service bays and sold gasoline. Eventually everything but the gas pumps was discontinued, but today it is the only gas station in town. Lucky Taylor is the current operator.



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## Snowmobiling in the Past and Present

Since the snowshoe, no other invention has revolutionized winter travel as much as the snowmobile. In fact, it can be said the snowmobile made the snowshoe obsolete; except as a recreational tool. Inventors had been dreaming for decades of a motorized vehicle that could travel efficiently on snow. In the era before 1950, a lot of weird contraptions were “invented” to move over snow. The earliest contraptions were tried out in the American Midwest and ranged from motorized toboggans to propeller-driven machines on skis. Some inventors even converted Model T Fords as primitive snowmobiles. But most were awkward, expensive and had numerous drawbacks including their large size.. In the 1920s, inventors such as Joseph-Armand Bombardier began to experiment with continuous “caterpillar” tracks like those used on bulldozers or early tractors. The earliest steel tracks were too heavy, and rubber tracks were substituted. The earliest winter snow machines were large half-tracked vehicles with skis on the front and were designed to carry numerous passengers: kind of a bus on snow. These large “people-movers” are still popular today for such groups as ice fishermen & skiers. Bombardier was a clever mechanic who saw potential in winter travel machines. He set up a company in Valcourt Quebec to build large passenger snow moving machines in the 1930s. Most of his early models carried 6 – 12 passengers and were used as school buses, mail carriers and transport for the army. But the world still lacked a one-person snow machine until the 1950s. After the war, the first reliable 4 stroke (small) engines were mass produced. With this technological advance & a newer rubber track system, Bombardier saw his chance. The first modern snow machines were built in 1956 by the Polaris Company in Minnesota, but they

were heavy, slow & expensive. In 1960, Bombardier produced his first Skidoo model of snow machines. They were light, cheap and dependable. It didn’t take long for numerous other companies to release their own versions. By 1970, there were over 100 companies in the snowmobile business, but Skidoo was the largest. Between 1970 & 1973, over 2 million snowmobiles were sold in North America! The snowmobile market became glutted and has gradually declined since the 1970s. Today there are only 4 manufacturers left in the world (Bombardier/Ski-doo, Yamaha, Arctic Cat & Polaris). Snowmobiles arrived in Kinmount in the mid-1960s. They certainly added to winter fun & travel, but soon it became apparent they could be a nuisance as well. The main problem was where can you drive them? Most snowmobilers quickly outgrew the backyard and began to range farther afield. They became a nuisance on travelled roads and private property. Collisions with cars were common and machines falling through the ice became a regular occurrence, sometimes fatal in both cases! By the 1980s, snowmobile clubs were organized to provide safe, organized & groomed trails. Anyone who has snowmobiled will understand the importance of a groomed trail. Constant use by snow machines causes a “rutted” or wave effect that can spoil the trail.

Kinmount was always “on the fringe” of various snowmobile clubs. To the south was the Somerville Club, to the north the Haliburton Club & to the east the Buckhorn Club. All their trails led to Kinmount. The Victoria Railway Line became an ideal thoroughfare for snowmobiling after the rails were lifted in the 1980s. The Railway Corridor is

linked with trails from all over Ontario and Quebec. It is not uncommon to have hundreds of snow machines pass through Kinmount on any given winter’s day. A count at the railway station one weekend a decade ago counted 1,200 machines on a Saturday & 800 on Sunday! The village became an ideal stop for the sledders; featuring gas, food & sundry supplies right on the trail!

Kinmount village also became a great starting spot for snowmobile tourists. The railway yard is often filled with snowmobile trailers since it is literally right on the trail! The various clubs keep their section of the rail trail and surrounding bush trails groomed and smoothed. Each club owns several large Bombardier groomers manned by club volunteers. To pay for maintenance, the clubs sell trail passes, and only snow machines with these passes are allowed on the Trails.

What was once a cheap & common sport has changed over the years. New snowmobiles run from \$8,000 - \$12,000 each. Passes now sell for \$250 per season. Add to that the cost of insurance, transportation, gas, etc and the sport is quickly becoming only for the serious.



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## Myth Busters: Snow Spores Infect Irondale River

The Ministry of Fisheries and Oceans along with the Ministry of Natural Resources are warning of super-sized snow spores that have recently been multiplying on the surface of the Irondale River. These spores which are oval in shape, range in size from 25 cm—40 cm in diameter. The Ministries have sent spore samples to their testing laboratories in Guelph. This process is very delicate, as the transportation requires re Fridg-eration and so researchers were eager to retrieve the samples during the recent cold weather.

Experts predict that these spores will infect our waterways until late March at which time, they state the spores will transform there molec-ular structure into a more fluid form and could infect the Burnt River and its watershed as far as the Kawartha Lakes.

There is no known threat to live-stock or wildlife, however, people

are being advised not to snack on the spores, especially those that are yellow-ish in colour.

This biological phenomenon is rare, but not unheard of and generally seems to

occur between the months of December through March.

Should you spot these spores, please con-tact the Spore Department of the MNR at 555-1212 ext. 666.



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# Kinmount Gazette

**Kinmount...Explore Our Heritage, Experience Our Charm!**

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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 Burnt River looking north from the Bridge.

## From the Editor's Desk

Winter is almost over. Yes it is! According to the old pioneer farmers, the snow stayed on the ground for 100 days each winter. They measured the 100 days from the first snowfall that stayed on the ground; this year that date was December 1. That means the snow should be (mostly) gone by March 10. Mark it on your calendar; the old timers had that "wisdom" of Mother Nature (or not).

This edition we are featuring a History of Trapping in our area. It was good to see displays by the Fur Trapping Councils at both the Kinmount Winter Carnival & Buckhorn Heritage Day. Fur trappers have taken their share of lumps lately. Low prices often make their financial returns pitiful. And animal rights groups are always criticizing the fur industry, calling for boycotts and trying their best to destroy it. Fur product de-

mand has also fallen to new lows and to say the market is flat is an understatement. Many people wonder why trappers need to operate at all. But the trapper does serve a useful purpose in our ecosystem. Left on their own, fur-bearing animals such as beaver can be very, very destructive. They build dams, flood land, destroy trees and destroy plenty of other ecosystems as well. Mother Nature can be a cruel place; and is not always the cute stories brought to us in the movies or through children's books. Congratulations to the organizers of the Kinmount Winter Carnival. It was well done and well attended. Winter Carnivals can be tricky things with the weather & everything, but the 2011 Kinmount edition was excellent! More congratulations to those brave souls from the Kinmount Fair Board and assistants who have operated the Arena this winter. The

Arena has seen lots of activity and some fun times for young & old alike. A lot of people would sure miss it if nobody stepped forward to keep the ice going.

Yet more congratulations go to Susan Pearson whose Kinmount Fair Display won first prize at the Ontario Fairs Convention. Sue used the theme of "Rain on the Fair". Directors from the Kinmount Fair attend the annual convention to book entertainment for the 2011 edition of the Kinmount Fair. Watch the Gazette for further details. Remember, you will see it first here!

The Kinmount area lost two more long-time residents in the past month: Barry Walker and Doreen Sandala. Our condolences are extended to their families. Saturday February 19 was Heritage

Day in Ontario. This little-known holiday is to promote our heritage, history & culture. The Municipality of Galway-Cavendish & Harvey held a celebration at the Buckhorn Community Centre. It featured everything from historical displays to present day displays to food to local entertainment. We Canadians don't celebrate our heritage as much as we should. A recent poll found almost half of Canadians surveyed could not identify Canada's first Prime Minister (hint: it's Sir John A Macdonald). GS





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