

"It is the people who made this business the success it is and we want and need the kind of people who will keep it that way for the future," said Oldfield.

Because the company has been here for 65 years, many residents tend to take Stewart Warner "for granted," he suggested. Yet, over the years, thousands of people have worked there, have trained there and gone on to other opportunities, or have spent most of their working lives there, raising a family whose livelihood has depended on the plant.

And right now, there are still many in the community who have been a part of Stewart Warner's past. "We want to recognize them and get them involved in our celebrations," said Oldfield.

An example, he said, would be some old sports trophies for women's softball and other plant teams during the 1920s and 1930s. "If we could find any original members or leaders of those teams, we might like to polish up the trophies and give them to them."

"Even though the plant has been here now for 65 years, many people still don't know what we do," he said.

For that reason, public tours of the plant will be one of the events planned for Stewart Warner Week, to be proclaimed by Mayor George Zegouras the week of June 9.

The Belleville plant services all of Canada and some selected export markets, with regional offices in Vancouver and Montreal. It is a subsidiary of Stewart Warner of Chicago, but the city plant has had its own management since it started. It is also one of 13 Stewart Warner plants around the globe.

Oldfield or his committee would be pleased to hear from any former employee who may be able to contribute memories or souvenirs from past years, or who may want information on anniversary festivities.

Belleville -- IN INDUSTRIES -- STEWART WARNER