

Why close

Suppers?

BY MANDY MARTIN
STAFF WRITER

Strictly speaking, church suppers aren't part of the mandate for the provincial Rural Economic Task Force — or are they? Shirley McComb made it her business to make it part of the agenda.

"In the last few weeks, several church kitchens have been closed down because they are not up to restaurant standards," Mrs. McComb stepped up to a microphone to explain at last week's Rural Economic task force public meeting at The Big Apple March 29.

"Everyone knows when they buy a \$10 ticket where it (the food) is prepared. It's the homes of the volunteers. We haven't managed to poison our families yet in all the time we have been having dinners.

"Why are they doing this?" the

Castleton W.I. member asked task force chair Northumberland MPP Doug Galt last week. "These (dinners) involve a lot of volunteer work in all communities and we'd like to see a little bit of licence shown. For many, this is the major fund-raising event for our churches and communities."

"It's probably the Medical Officer of Health, coming out of that office," Dr. Galt noted. "It probably relates to provincial regulations. We'll take it under advisement and look into it," he assured Mrs. McComb.

Enforcing the letter is the food preparation regulations would mean all food served at a community supper must be prepared in a kitchen on the premises where the meal is served.

For fund-raising events, that includes the salads, the homemade pies, the meat — and all the trimmings.

APR. 6/00
COLBORNE CHRONICLE

Red Cloud Cemetery habitat successful

COLBORNE CHRONICLE APR. 13/00

The ongoing restoration of prairie habitat at Red Cloud Cemetery in Cramahe Township is proving very successful cemetery board member Ed Heuvel reported to the March 25 board meeting.

In bloom right now at Red Cloud is the Prairie Buttercup, also known as Goldie's Buttercup after the renowned Ontario botanist Goldie. The tiny blooms of the plant indigenous to prairie grasslands is a brilliant yellow. Blooms will peak within the next 10 days or so, Mr. Heuvel notes.

Again this year, the Federation of Ontario Natu-

ralists is sponsoring a "weed pulling" prairie habitat learning weekend at the Red Cloud Cemetery. For \$95 per person, participants help reestablish the rare savanna habitat at the July 16-18 weed pulling weekend". Larry Lamb of the University of Waterloo continues to monitor the project and has overseen two extensive student reports completed in 1996 and 1998.

The prairie habitat is unique in that it requires regular burning off of vegetation to ensure the rare prairie plants retain their hold over other non-native weeds. A burn of the western third of the cemetery is planned for early May this year. The board will arrange to have the Cramahe Volunteer Firefighters on hand.

The cemetery board is investigating the repair of old grave stones. An expert has been contacted for estimates.

While Red Cloud Cemetery board has delayed official historical designation for a few years, the property is recognized for its natural habitat and history. An interpretive sign was erected at the site May 1998.

At the March 25 meeting of the board, the election of officers took place., Patrick Johnston is chair, Elwood Jones vice chair and Sharon Dodds secretary/treasurer. The board received a \$5,000 bequest from the state of the late J.C. McKague.

- MANDY MARTIN

Last year for Colborne marriage licences

Getting married? You could make the occasion doubly historic if you purchase your marriage licence in the Village of Colborne this year.

With the amalgamation of Colborne Village and Cramahe Township set to create a new municipality of the Township of Cramahe effective January 1, 2001, gone will be the 'official' name of Colborne on documents.

Colborne Village Clerk Beth Vosburgh is the designated Division Registrar and Issuer of Marriage Licences for the village of Colborne until year-end. The appointment of Ms. Vosburgh, with Michele Herley-Tremblay as the Deputy Issuer, has been approved by the provincial Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations.

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JOINING FORCES - AND OFFICES

PHOTO BY MANDY MARTIN

Piles of paper, desk assembly in the hall, filing cabinets in the elevator - it was moving day for Cramahe Township and Colborne Village municipal staff. The two administrative staffs are sharing digs at the newly renovated Colborne Municipal Building.

Last Thursday, staff were coping with the chaos, left to right: Trudy Merrill, Moira Chatterton, Michelle Herley-Tremblay, Beth Vosburgh and Becky Bonisteel. COLBORNE CHRONICLE APR. 6/00

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