

Wilce new councillor

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Carl Wilce will be a Cramahe Township Councillor for the next five months. His name was drawn from a lunch bag after a tie vote to name a replacement for former township Councillor Ernie Stoneman who was required to resign when he sold his residential property in the township.

Mr. Wilce will be sworn into office at the municipal offices in Colborne as soon as possible to assume his duties and committee membership on Community Care, Committee of Adjustment, Recreation, Roads and Fire Board.

Three names were nominated for consideration: John Rutherford, Carl Wilce and Lee Dekeyser. Under the rules of procedure, the four incumbent council members could nominate as many people and vote for as many candidates as they wished until a candidate was selected.

On the first vote, Reeve Stu Oliver and Marc Coombs voted for Mr. Oliver's nomination John Rutherford. Deputy reeve Williams and Councillor Jennifer Scott-Tinney voted for Carl Wilce (nominated by Ms. Scott-Tinney). Lee Dekeyser was nominated and received one vote from Councillor Scott-Tinney.

The second round of voting, the tie vote remained, leaving Township Treasurer-Administrator to put the names of Mr. Rutherford and Mr. Wilce in a lunch bag. The draw was made by Dave Barth, attending the council meeting on another matter.



BACKYARD WONDER

PHOTO BY MANDY MARTIN

Ponds, pathways, arbours, benches, gazebos and a magical mix of plantings have been five years in the works at the home of Chantal and Tim Juranics, 27 Durham Street North, Colborne. More photos page 8.



LOTS OF SMOKE

PHOTO BY PETE FISHER

A smokey blaze at the former CSP/Bowes plant in Colborne on Tuesday afternoon kept Colborne firefighters busy. Plumes of thick black smoke were coming from the plant when Colborne/Cramahe firefighters arrived and they requested assistance from Brighton Fire Department.

Fire crews believed the fire was in the ceiling, but at press time hadn't determined an exact cause or damage-estimate.

One-room schools reunion

BY MANDY MARTIN
STAFF WRITER

Anyone who ever attended either The Stone School or Vernonville Public School is invited to a reunion Tuesday, August 1.

"They were both one-room schools," Shirley McHolm recalls. "A few of us who either attended or taught in the schools have been getting together for years for a sort of reunion. We were talking about it and thought there were a lot of people in the area who would've gone to school at one or the other over the years, so we

decided to invite everyone for a reunion."

It's a potluck lunch at 12 noon August 1 at the old Vernonville School, now the Vernonville Community Centre just north of the Vernonville General Store.

"Anyone with old photos, artifacts or stories to tell is invited to come," says Shirley, who has plenty of stories of her own to share. "I taught at the Vernonville School for six months finishing Mrs. Carman's term. I love a one-room school."

Remember all eight primary grades were in one classroom.

"One year, I had 38 students," the 10-year veteran of one-room schools recalls. "Nowadays, they complain if there are over 20. I was principal, secretary and never had any study time," Shirley laughs. "I was on duty from 8 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. every school day, and I never went on strike."

The Stone School, S.S.#9 Haldimand, was located at the southwest corner of Vernonville and Telephone Roads. Today, it is part of a private residence.



PHOTOS BY MANDY MARTIN

The former Vernonville School, now the Vernonville Community Centre.

The one-room rural schools were an integral part of community life until they were closed in the 1940s or 1950s, amalgamated with larger, newer schools to which students were bused. All grades and ages together meant everyone knew one another and grew up together.

"We want as many people as possible to know about this and come out for the noon potluck lunch," Shirley proclaims. "There are still a lot of people in the area today who attended either one of those schools."



The Stone School, now a private residence, at the corner of Vernonville and Telephone Roads.