

## OBITUARY

### William (Bill) Thomas O'Grady

William (Bill) Thomas O'Grady of Morganston passed away in Kingston General Hospital on December 18, 2003 following heart by-pass surgery and a subsequent stroke.

Bill was born in Morganston in 1943, son of the late Philip and Mary (Pollock) O'Grady. After the passing of both of his parents at the age of seven, Bill was cared for by his aunt, the late Lucy Pollock. He married Maureen Roddy of Burnley in 1963 and they lived in Morganston, operating their family farm.

Bill farmed from an early age until his time of passing. He was active in his community, serving as director and past president of the Hamilton Township Mutual Insurance Company for 18 years, director

and past president of the Warkworth Co-op, director of Northumberland Pork Producers Association, and as a member of the Percy Cemetery Board. He was also an active parishioner of St. Jerome's Catholic Church, Warkworth.

Bill will be lovingly remembered by his wife, Maureen, and their four children, Mary and her husband Ken Macfarlane of Keene, Philip and his wife Joanne, of Morganston, Joseph of Morganston and Kevin of Toronto. Bill was the loving grandfather of Colin and Christopher Macfarlane, and Michael, Gregory, Ryan and Sean O'Grady. He is also survived by his sister Audrey (Doidge) of Brighton.

He will be sadly missed by family, friends and neighbours.

The funeral mass in St. Jerome's Church on Monday, December 22 was concelebrated

by Father Gerald McMahon, Father Ken Rae and Father Joseph Darzycki. Mr. O'Grady's brother-in-law, Bob Robertson led in the singing of the Mass of the Resurrection and special hymns. Sons, Philip and Kevin read the scriptures, and cousin, Kathleen Lillis of Buffalo, N.Y. led the prayers of the faithful.

In the eulogy for his father, Philip recalled many interesting anecdotes from his early years. He drew upon Bill's influence as a good father with strong family and religious values; he was a man who set high expectations and standards through example. Bill's neighbours were like family to him and he could be counted on as someone willing to lend a helping hand in times of need.

Philip paid tribute to his father as an "agricultural professional" as well as a dedicated director on several boards.

Although his leisure time was somewhat limited, Bill enjoyed curling, golfing, boating and fishing as well as special times with his family and grandchildren at the family cottage at Sunset Bay on Rice Lake.

Pallbearers were Donald Clarke, Gordon Partridge, Charles Hobbs, Glenn Hatcher, Howard Mitchell, Toivo Soolepp, Roger Doidge and Robert Jaynes.

Honorary pallbearers were Earl Harren and Lawrence Massey. Nephews Scott Jaynes, Jeffrey Jaynes, Thomas Hopkins, Ben Hopkins and John Paul Robertson were the flowerbearers.

Following interment in St. Jerome's Cemetery, Warkworth, family, friends and neighbours gathered at St. Paul's Christian Education Centre for a luncheon served by St. Jerome's Catholic Women's League and parishioners.

## CAP in hand with \$8,000 grant

The Cramahe Township Library will receive \$8,000 from Industry Canada and the Ministry of Culture this year. The grant will allow the library to maintain its Community Access Program (CAP) computer access to the Internet.

A new computer will be bought for the Colborne branch and two new computers will find homes in the Castleton branch. Printers will be purchased for both locations. Castleton will soon have its own scanner.

Library Board CEO Sue Laberge learned of the grant monies February 10.

- BOB OWEN

# idle

NEWS



Ag/rural land value impacts

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93 cents + 7 cents GST

## Council gets good news

By BOB OWEN  
cchronicle@linkd.net

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Cramahe council finally got some good financial news last week.

Prime Minister Paul Martin's announcement a GST rebate for municipalities will mean a saving of close to \$62,000 this year for Cramahe. That's the figure projected for 2004 by township CAO, Merlin Dewing, based on last year's expenditures.

It's welcome news in a year the municipality faces costs of a new water tower, increases in the Lower Trent Region Conservation Authority and the Northumberland County portions of its budget. Cramahe Township Mayor Lee Dekeyser has been pressing for the elimination of payment of the GST as well as the PST by municipal governments. He also supports sharing the gas tax with municipal governments.

Last week's Throne Speech announcement by the prime minister is part of the federal government's new deal for municipalities highlighted in the speech from the throne. It will save municipal governments about \$7-billion in the next 10 years. The federal government has offered to negotiate a share of the gas tax revenues as well.

No implementation plan has been announced for this proposal. Federal Opposition leader Grant Hill criticized the government's proposals, stating the proposals are just a "big IOU, with no plans on how to pay for it until after an early election call."

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