

Grafton's graceful lady opens her doors after restoration project

GRAFTON - The graceful old lady of Grafton will re-open her doors this Saturday, Feb. 15.

The Grafton Town Hall, on Cty. Rd. 2, the home of the Alnwick/Haldimand Township offices, has been restored to its 1860 splendor, when it was constructed at a cost of £940.

Doors open at 1 p.m., and a re-dedication ceremony is scheduled for 2 p.m., which will include a Town Crier, the brass section of the Cobourg Con-

cert Band, the Grafton Legion colour party, speeches by the mayor and politicians, and refreshments.

Architect Thomas F. Nichols designed the building in the Romanesque Revival style, and during the past years it has been used as an armory, a bank and a general store, as well as the hub of the township. The upstairs council chamber doubles as a ballroom and auditorium, complete with a stage, and still boasts its original tin ceiling, Pal-

ladian windows and painted stage curtain. This time around, architect Grant Robertson re-designed the interior to make

efficient office space and to upgrade to current building codes. Local Architectural Conservancy Advisory Committee

members will also have various heritage displays. Everyone is welcome to join in the celebration.



PEG McCARTHY/ News photo

A golden tribute

COBOURG - MPP Dr. Doug Galt presented Jan Hoselton and Carol Town, daughters of Gord Hoselton, with a Queen's Golden Jubilee medal, in honour of their late father's contribution to the community. The two family members accepted the medal at Hoselton Studios in Colborne last Thursday, with staff members looking on. Also receiving medals last week were Dr. John Benson of Port Hope, and Bill Maguire of Cobourg.

Alnwick/Haldimand building permits double in value in 2001

by CRAIG SMITH *Feb. 12/03*
The Independent

The number and value of building permits issued during 2002 increased in east Northumberland, with Alnwick/Haldimand leading the pack and Cramahe trailing.

At the Alnwick/Haldimand Council meeting last Thursday, Chief Building Official/By-Law Enforcement Officer Michael Godin told council the number of permits he had issued had increased dramatically when compared to 2001.

During 2001, 115 permits were issued for a total value of \$7,415,880 while in 2002, 148 permits were issued at a value of \$14,634,505. Of those permits 64 were new residential construction compared to 35 the year before.

"Alnwick had 11 new homes built and that's a phenomenal number," said Godin.

Mayor Bill Finley said he was pleased with the increase but felt larger municipalities did not realize so much

growth was taking place in Alnwick/Haldimand. He also said he would like Godin to forward copies of the report to municipalities throughout Northumberland.

"This is a banner year for Alnwick/Haldimand ... but nothing will be said about it," Finley said. "I want you to send that report out."

Brighton also experienced growth in 2002 with 238 permits, valued at \$19,077,000, issued this year compared to 201, valued at \$17,002,425, during 2001.

Chief Building Official Rick Jones said 104 permits were issued for new residences in 2002 compared to 77 in 2001. Even after the approximate \$2-million Sobey's permit is subtracted from 2002's value, the growth is still quite significant, said Jones.

Trent Hills saw some growth despite fewer permits being issued during 2002. There were 261 permits, valued at \$8.17-million, issued in

2002 compared to 263 in 2001, a 21 per cent increase in value for 2002.

Although the number of permits fell in 2002, revenue from fees rose because the municipality took over responsibility for septic system reviews, "without an increase in building department staff, so we're quite happy," Chief Building Official Dean Findlay said.

Cramahe saw a drop in value despite more permits being issued. During 2002, 128 permits, valued at \$5,438,700, were issued compared to 123 permits, valued at \$7,516,552, in 2001.

Cramahe Chief Building Official Becky Bonisteel said the drop in value from 2001 is due to the Keeler Centre.

"We had the arena in (2001), so you take about \$2-million from last year and our figures are about the same," said Bonisteel.

- with files from John Campbell

BARCHUK, CAROL (formerly of Castleton) Peacefully at the Lakeridge Health Centre, Bowmanville on Sunday February 9th, 2003 in her 81st year. Beloved wife of Steve Barchuk of Bowmanville. Loving mother of Lynda Rath (Steven) of Bowmanville, Lloyd Barchuk (Marie Rose) of Port Perry, Karen Garrard (Ron) of Port Hope, Darlene Clappison (Brian) of Oro Station and the late Larry Barchuk. Dear grandmother of Kerri, David, Amanda, Cheryl, Kristopher, Kasia, Roni, Nicholle, Daniel, Michael and Jamie. Fondly remembered by her family out west. Friends may call at the MacCoubrey Funeral Home, 11 King St., W., Colborne on Tuesday February 11th from 1-2 pm., followed by a funeral service at 2 pm. Interment in the Spring at Castleton Cemetery. If desired, donations may be made to the Canadian Mental Health Association. (Cheques Only Please).

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600 DEATH NOTICES

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BEGG, WILLIAM VICTOR "BILL"

At the Northumberland Health Care Centre, Cobourg on Friday, February 7, 2003, age 72 years. Bill Begg, formerly of Morganston and of Brighton. Beloved husband of the late Lois Jean (Fowler). Dear father of David Begg and his wife Brenda of Huntsville and Nancy and her husband James Maguire of Cobourg. Predeceased by his brother Gordon and his sisters Florence, Phyllis and Irene. Sadly missed by grandchildren Adam, Devon and Katie. The family will receive friends at St. Paul's United Church, Warkworth on Tuesday, February 11 from 11:30 o'clock, followed by the service at 1 o'clock. The Reverend George Lavery officiating. Cremation with spring interment in Christian Church Cemetery, Morganston. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Canadian Cancer Society, care of the Walas Funeral Home, 70 Church Street, Box 83, Warkworth, Ontario, K0K 3K0, would be appreciated by the family.