

MUSIC: Local girls the only Canadians at choral event

Young Grafton singers perform in Detroit

NORTHUMBERLAND

TODAY
APR. 6/09

GRAFTON - Three girls from the Youth Choir at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Grafton travelled to Detroit Mar. 27 to 29 to participate with 100 other young singers at an event in the Roman Catholic Cathedral.

Organized by Pueri Cantores, the international choral organization for young Catholic singers, the Saturday workshop lasted over five hours, and ended with the massed choir singing at a mass celebrated by the new Archbishop for Detroit.

Other singers came from the southern portion of the State of Michigan. The area girls, Michelle Sharp of Grafton, and Rebekah Charles and Michelle Coombs of Colborne, were the only Canadians present.

The parish's Catholic Women's League paid for the hotel accommodation for the young people and two mothers who accompanied them as

chaperons. The young singers enjoyed their time, and hope to attend at next year's event, also planned for Detroit. Randy Mills

...
Easter is fast approaching, and Divine Cravings in Cobourg wants to bring homemade freshness to your family's table. They are currently taking orders for lemon pies, apple pies, hot cross buns, dinner rolls, butter tarts, etc.
Remember, they have authentic eccles cakes and sausage rolls that are tasty on any occasion. They go fast so make sure to stop by and pick some up. As always, they have a full selection of delicious breads, squares, cookies, meat

pies, quiche and, when you need, give a call to order a custom cake.
Let homemade products be part of your yearly traditions so that you have more family time. For all your bakery needs, visit Divine Cravings, 9 King St. East (just past Division Street) in Cobourg, open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 905-377-9775.

ERIN IS THE DAUGHTER OF GORO ALLCHURCH, CASTLETON

VALUE LESSON: Experts to examine antique toys



BOB OWEN Sun Media

Whoaaaa! Marshall Gummer and Judith Jakab-Conrad area finishing the preparations for the upcoming appraisal clinic of vintage toys. Proceeds from the appraisal clinic, which runs April 10 to 12, will go to Easter Seals Ontario.

Twindmills toy appraisal clinics will benefit Easter Seals

BOB OWEN
lowen@xplornet.com

CRAMAHE TOWNSHIP - April 10 to 12 is the last chance to help the people at Twindmills raise money for charity through their current antiques appraisal clinics.

For three consecutive months, the busy people at the stained glass studio and antiques and collectibles market have been hosting

antiques road show-style appraisal clinics and donating the proceeds to charity.

This month, Easter Seals gets the nod, as accredited appraisers take a look at your vintage toys.

Only \$5 will buy you an estimate on that favourite old toy. If you can't decide which toy to bring, have three evaluated for \$10, knowing every cent goes to charity.

The April 10 session starts at

4 p.m. and runs until 7 p.m. The Saturday clinic runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and the Sunday appraisals are done from 1 to 4 p.m. While you're there, see if you can find the displays featuring bunny and egg themes.

Twindmills is at the corner of Purdy Road and Big Apple Drive (County Road 25) just south of Highway 401 in Cramahe Township.

NORTHUMBERLAND TODAY
APR 7/09

BUDGET: Increase may be lowest in county: Coombs

Cramahe levy hike set at 1.86%

NORTHUMBERLAND TODAY

JOYCE CASSIN
jcassin@northumberlandtoday.com

CRAMAHE TOWNSHIP - Residents who have not seen an increase in assessment this year will see their municipal portion of their tax bills go down, but most properties did see an increase, says Cramahe treasurer Mora Chatterson.

Council passed a bylaw Tuesday night approving a 2009 budget levy increase of 1.86%, but the tax rate (formerly called the mill rate) decreased by 7.13%.

In apparent disbelief, resident Fern Dobson asked for clarification, stating that on a property assessed at \$150,000 last year, the municipal portion of the tax bill would have been \$1,257, yet this year's bill

would be \$1,167. She was assured her numbers were correct, as the tax rate did in fact decrease.

"I think we have the lowest levy increase in Northumberland County," said Mayor Marc Coombs.

The township held three budget meetings in March, with the final meeting held on Mar. 31.

The levy to taxpayers is \$3,906,787, says Chatterson.

"Based on the fact that the average house assessment increase was 10%, a house with an assessment of \$165,000 will pay \$1,284.70 in municipal taxes in 2009," said Chatterson. "Last year a \$150,000 house would have paid \$1,257.58 municipal portion."

1