

Woman's Institutes fighting to save the environment

It seems almost everyone is getting in on the save the environment theme lately. With grocery stores marketing biodegradable garbage bags and young parents asking for environmentally-safe baby diapers.

Even the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario (FWIO) are making the environment a top priority in 1989. The FWIO recently announced that Women and the Environment will be the theme for 1989-90.

Women's Institute members will be acting in their own communities planting trees, cleaning Provincial Park beaches, helping with recycling programs, joining local groups that are trying to prevent viable farm land from becoming landfills.

They will also be donating money to local fairs for environmental competitions, providing speakers, organizing workshops and presenting resolutions to the appropriate levels of government.

More than 20,000 farm and rural women belong to Women's Institutes across the province.

One of the best ways to cut down on environmental pollution is to eliminate household products which create harm to the environment when they are produced or after they are disposed of.

Here are some easy to prepare household products made with ingredients which are sure to be in your cupboard. The product list was prepared by the FWIO.

An all purpose cleanser for

floors, appliances, countertops can be made with 1/2 cup ammonia, 1/2 cup vinegar, 1/4 cup baking soda, 1/2 gallon of water.

A furniture polish of one teaspoon lemon oil and one pint of mineral oil can be applied to furniture with a rag.

A wall cleaner of 1/4 cup washing soda, 1/2 cup household ammonia, 1/4 cup vinegar and one gallon warm water, will bring a gleam to your walls.

A good old-fashioned fabric softener of 1/2 to one cup vinegar added to the laundry rinse water will soften clothes with-

out leaving them sticky.

Borax can be used instead of bleach for cleaning.

A silver cleaner that won't gag you and require hours of polishing can be made by combining one quart of water with one tablespoon baking soda and one tablespoon salt. Boil all the ingredients and drop the silverware into it for three minutes. Remove and polish with a soft cloth.

Mist plant leaves with soapy water for insecticide.

Some pesticides can be made with natural products. A rhubarb spray made by steeping six rhubarb leaves in two to

three quarts of boiling water is effective against aphids, June bugs, black spot and rust. Be sure to strain the leaves before spraying the liquid.

A garlic spray made by blending and steeping for 10 minutes three cloves of garlic, one teaspoon very hot pepper and one quart of water and straining and mixing with more water in a one-to-four ratio, is effective against chewing and sucking insects. It also acts as a fungicide for mildew, leaf spot and spore diseases.

For a drain declogger, toss two handfuls of bicarbonate of soda into a drain, followed by

1/2 cup of vinegar. Let set for one hour then run water through.

Sick of sweetly scented canned air fresheners? Just leave an opened box of baking soda or a dish of vinegar in the room. If you still want the floral smell, give yourself an excuse to buy some fresh flowers, or better yet grow you own (organically of course).

If an old thermometer breaks, carefully push the mercury droplets together into a glass bottle, then phone the dentist. Dentists sometime recycle mercury.

Hall of Fame nomination

Robert F. Latham, a sterling footballer with Beamsville District Secondary School and Queen's University teams, has been nominated to the Queen's Football Hall of Fame.

Son of Dr. and Mrs. Harold D. Latham, Bob starred with BDSS before enrolling at

Queen's in 1960 where he was an all-star with the Tricolor.

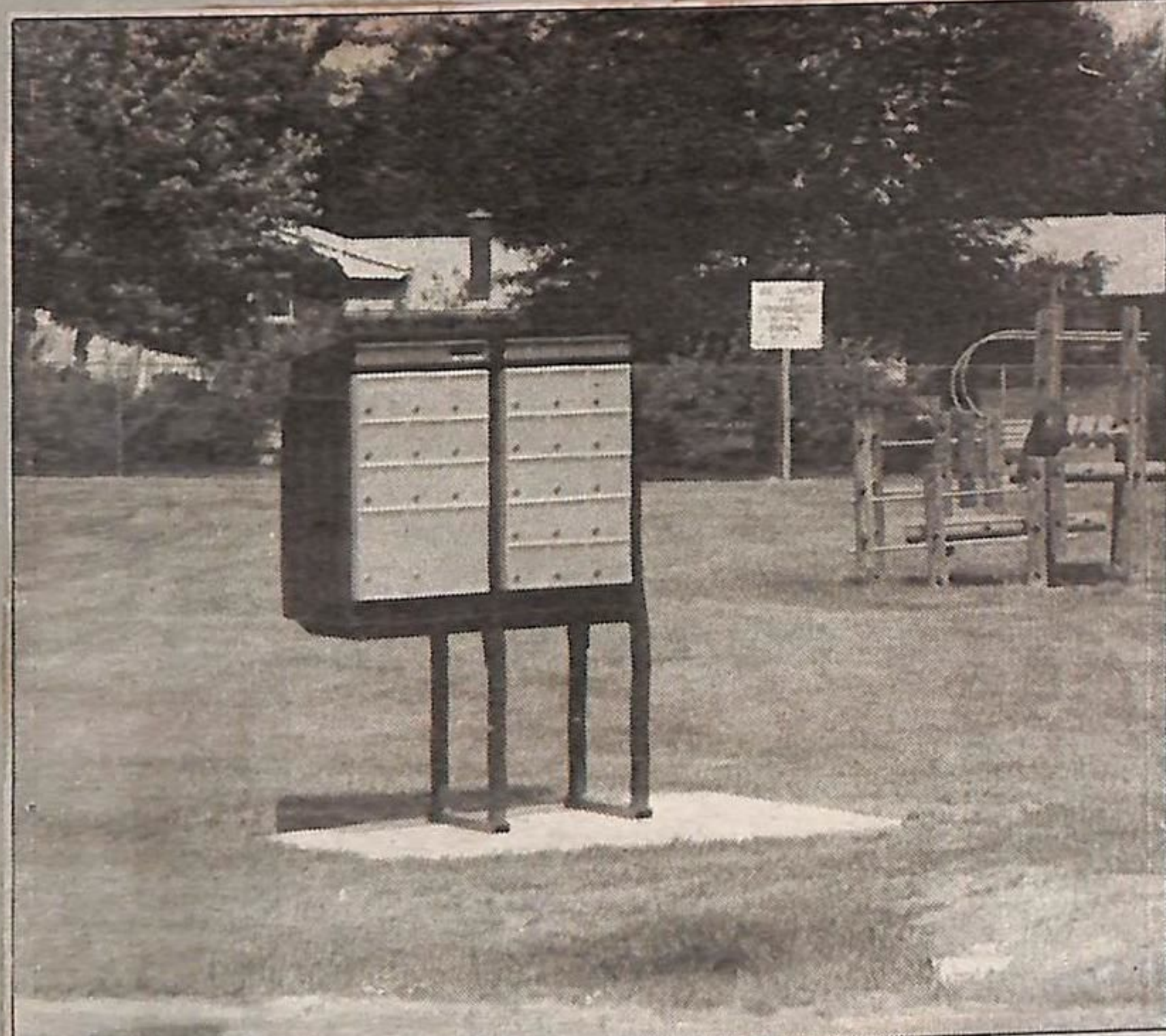
Mr. Latham is married to the former Bonnie Shepherd, also of Beamsville, and is president of the Bell Cellular division of Bell Canada Enterprises. He lives in Toronto. *AUG 1989*



GARDENERS AND THEIR WARES

Sid Taylor and Joe Richards were manning the garden market booth at St. Alban's Church last Wednesday morning. The market is open every Wednesday and Saturday morning with an array of flowers, fruits and vegetables on sale. *AUG 89*

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CENTRE OF ATTRACTION

The newly-located community mailbox in the Elizabeth Street parkette in Beamsville is one of many causing headaches for local aldermen.

Addresses must change



WHAT A DAY FOR A PICNIC

The Beamsville Seniors held a picnic at Ball's Falls Conservation Area on August 28. Scheduled events for the day included afternoon games and a pot-luck supper.