

Attempt to save small streams

Placid streams that tinkle through woods and pasture land are creating problems for expanding communities of the Grand River valley.

Pasture lands and woods that used to soak up heavy rain and melting snow have been replaced by houses, shops, offices, large

industrial plants and acres of asphalt. Streams and creeks are encased in culverts. Their natural drainage features make them ideally located to receive large quantities of water running off newly-built up areas.

In the cities of the Grand

River valley—Brantford, Galt, Guelph, Kitchener and Waterloo—many of these streams have become storm sewers.

In times of heavy rainfall or when snow is melting, they become swollen and often overflow to create flooding problems, mostly minor but occasionally serious.

A growing awareness of the problems that can be caused by using one-rural streams for storm drainage has prompted the Grand River Conservation Authority to do something about it.

A pilot study to determine how rural streams can be preserved despite being surrounded by subdivisions, shopping centres and the other hallmarks of urbanization is being carried out in the Guelph area.

On the city's southern outskirts, Hanton Creek meanders through an area of 11 square miles. The annexed area is still largely undeveloped but it won't be long before streets are built and houses, apartment buildings and shopping centres begin to appear.

The authority commissioned a firm of engineers to examine the still-rural creek and the area which feeds it and recommend ways of preserving it as a stream. The engineers have spent several months determining where the creek gets its water, how much of it travels down to Speed River and how much the creek channel is capable of carrying. They estimated the number of people who could eventually live in the creek watershed which lies in the annexed area. They then estimated the amount of runoff likely to feed into the creek when the now-green fields become covered with houses.

The conclusion that the creek could be saved by creating of park and conservation zone around it.

A series of small check dams and ponds are recommended at a cost of \$220,000. These would be used to slow down the flow of water in the creek, act as settling basins for sediment and would also improve the appearance of the creek.

The result would be a highly pleasing park area containing substantial areas of bush and dotted with ponds, in the middle of a large tract of urban development on the city's outskirts.

The engineering proposals in the preliminary report Grand River Conservation Authority.

"This could be the pattern for preserving many small streams throughout the valley in areas where urban growth is taking place," said G. M. Coutts, authority general manager.

"We would be preserving natural water holdings areas and creating open space for use by the public."

LIMEHOUSE

Young people conduct service Christmas eve

By Mrs. A. Benton

The Young People's Group arranged a pleasant Christmas eve service in Limehouse Presbyterian Church last week.

Teddy Brown and Rob Roughley conducted the service with Rev. F. N. Young delivering the short sermon. Betty Ann Brown read a Christmas story. Mary Lou Brown was organist and eight young ladies sang two anthems.

Mary Lou was at the organ and Linda Linham at the piano for a recital prior to the service. Bill Henry and Stanley McEnery received the offering and the minister pronounced the benediction.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. James Noble who were married in England 50 years ago on Dec. 28.

We wish the editor and staff and many readers of the Acton Free Press a Happy New Year.

Free Press District Page

CHURCHILL

Candlelight service of lessons, carols Christmas concert at Churchill church

By Mrs. Fred McArthur

The regular meeting of the C. C. W. was held on December 18 in the evening at the home of president Mrs. Archie Kerr with a good attendance. It was the Christmas meeting when many carols were sung as answer to the roll call.

Mrs. Kerr, the president, opened the meeting with a short story "Advent Wreath" and prayer. Hymn "Joy to the World" was sung. Mrs. MacArthur gave the devotions choosing for her topic Christmas.

Mrs. Kerr read the Christmas story Luke Ch. 2. She also gave the story of the carol "Silent Night" and its composer, closing that part of the meeting with prayer and singing Silent Night.

Miss Elizabeth Strokov sang a solo "I Wonder as I Wander". Miss Erica Strokov accompanied her sister on the piano.

Mrs. Frank Thompson read the minutes of the last meeting, also an executive meeting, which were passed. Some business was dealt with. Baskets of fruit had been packed ready to deliver to the shut-ins last week. The next meeting is to be at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Andy Morden in the evening of January 15, 1969. Mrs. Kerr closed the meeting with a poem "Bells of

Christmas" and all joined in repeating the Mizpah benediction. Lunch was served by the hostess Mrs. Kerr with the help of Mrs. W. Thompson and Mrs. F. MacArthur.

The Sunday School Christmas Concert that was held on December 19 was a real success with a good turnout. Mr. Jack Denny acted as chairman and the Superintendent Mrs. Emerson Anderson and her assistants saw each of the children in the four classes had a part right down to the youngest. All did their very best with little acts and singing. The teenage class presented Scrooge's Christmas.

Then came the time for Santa in the person of Mr. Clarence Denny to distribute candies and gifts to all the toddlers, Sunday school children and teachers.

Everyone was invited downstairs where a bountiful lunch and tea and coffee and chocolate milk were served to all.

At Sunday morning Christmas service the children joined in worship together. Mr. Hyde chose for his text, "I have set before you an open door." Scripture Acts 14: verses 1-7. In the evening in spite of bad weather the church was well filled to enjoy the candlelight service. The choir opened the

service singing "Silent Night" from the entrance. Mr. Hyde then gave the call to worship and the processional entered with their lighted candles and singing O come all ye Faithful.

A solo followed by Mrs. E. Anderson "The Birthday of a King." The second reading Luke 2: 8-12 was followed by the choir "The Snow lay on the Ground." Third reading was Luke Ch. 2: 13-14. The choir anthem "Angels we have Heard on High" was followed by Fourth reading Luke Ch. 2: 15-20.

The Congregation sang "While Shepherds Watched their Flocks by Night". Fifth reading was Matthew 2: 1-10. The choir sang "We Three Kings of Orient are" after the reading of Matthew 2: verse 11 the choir sang "Sleep of the Child Jesus."

Mr. Hyde read "The Night of Darkness". The Orchestra played "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross". Mr. Hyde read "The everlasting Peace" followed by a solo by Jack Denny "O Holy Night." Mr. Hyde read the Commission "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."

Candles were relighted from one central candle by Mr. Hyde, the choir leaving and singing Joy to the World. Mr. Hyde gave the Benediction.



News of the district

Brant's ring, gorget back

BURLINGTON—Encased in a fireproof, waterproof and burglarproof vault, a silver gorget once worn by Chief Joseph Brant went on display at the Joseph Brant Museum in Burlington, and a host of officials gathered at the museum to officially welcome the prized antique item back to its original home.

The gorget is a crescent of gilt or silver, once worn at the throat of officers for protection in battle. It eventually became part of the British military uniform around 1770 when it became both an ornament and an insignia of the wearer's rank.

On display with it was a ring the great Indian chief once wore. It was purchased new by Brant in 1775.

Total value of the two exhibits is estimated at \$27,000. Chief Brant, as a captain in the British Army, was presented with the gorget by King George III. It is engraved with the royal cipher "G R" and the English coat of arms in the centre, with decorative arrangements of English and Indian instruments of battle to the left and right. On the back, it is inscribed "The gift of a friend to Capt. Brant."

When Brant died the gorget was left to his daughter Elizabeth. She presented it to the Sero family who were also direct descendants of Joseph Brant. It was sold in 1940 by Catherine Sero and went into a private collection. Earlier this year it was placed up for auction and a committee of Burlington citizens decided to bring it back to Burlington as a museum display.

Swimming pool regulations

ERIN—Caledon Township Council are concerned about the three drownings in a swimming pool recently and are determined to take steps to lessen the possibility of a tragedy of this type happening again.

This opinion was voiced by Mrs. E. Martin, wife of Caledon's Reeve, Ernest Martin.

Mrs. Martin said a report published in a Toronto paper was definitely false. The report stated the Township had refused to pass any type of by-law for swimming pools to be fenced.

V. L. Davison, clerk-treasurer, said it would not be practical or popular to pass a by-law making it necessary to fence all pools in the township. "There are hundreds of these pools in the area," he said. "Farmers use them for watering their cattle and the government even pays a grant on them."

Mrs. Martin said, however, that a considerable number of the pools are man-made. They are used in the summer by the non-residents, but are left full of water in the winter. Many are unfenced and nobody is living near them to keep an eye on them. The pools are left full of water in the winter to keep the frost from cracking the cement.

Mrs. Martin said it may be possible to drain the pools and fill them with straw to keep them from cracking.

The Township Council have looked at similar by-laws in other areas regulating pools but have found none that are completely satisfactory.

Competition for P.O.

GEORGETOWN—Members of First Baptist church junior went into competition with the Post Office department as deliverers of Christmas greeting cards. They placed boxes in the church vestibule, one for cards and the other for money which the sender would have paid for postage. The plan was that members of the congregation would drop their "in town" cards in the box at the church to be delivered to the homes by the junior choir members. The project, which was started last year by the church young people, was to help buy gowns for the juniors.

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Gifts piled in cutter at Trail Riders party

Rockwood Trail Riders held their annual trophy night at the Rockwood Town Hall, decorated with seasonal holly and poinsettias. On the stage the gifts were piled in an old-fashioned cutter complete with cosy robe.

After a delicious pot luck supper the awards were presented. The 10 high point placers in senior and junior

divisions earning merit certificates were:

Senior: Di Duncan, Babs Ellis, Ken Tuck, Jean Pettit, Al Fox, Lu Tuck, Faye Milburn, Dave Taylor, Moe McGinnis, Bill Milburn.
Junior: Mike Dales, Cindy Hohenadel, Lynn Duncan, John Dales, Buz Ellis, Susan Welhauser, Jim Dales, Paul Cooper, Randy Pettit, Debbie Harris, Barbara Milburn.

The top junior, Mike Dales was presented with the Tumblewood Trophy, and the top senior, Di Duncan, took the President's Cup. Also awarded were trophies for senior games horse, Molly Darlin owned and ridden by Ken Tuck western performance horse, was a tie between Happy Roy McCue, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Symes, and ridden by Jean Pettit, and Maverick, owned and ridden by Di Duncan. Top English performance horse was Royal Duke, owned and ridden by Bab Ellis. Junior games horse went to Buttermilk, owned and ridden by Mike Dales, and junior performance horse was Trixie, owned and ridden by Cindy Hohenadel.

The next meeting will be late in January, featuring an auction sale of donated items.

Largest graduating class at Heavy Equipment School

Milton Heavy Equipment School, an affiliate of Sheridan College, graduated its largest class ever of heavy equipment operators Friday, Dec. 20.

Fifty-seven men, aged from 18 to 60, received certificates in the operation of bulldozers, backhoes, graders, and other specialized types of machines.

Sixty per cent of the graduates have been sponsored by Canada Manpower, which expects to sponsor the same number in the next heavy equipment course, scheduled to begin in April.

Dean D. A. Shields gave a brief address to grads before they received their certificates from Wilt Fourmier, supervisor of the school, and the 10 instructors.

Graduates include new Canadians from Greece, Italy, Germany, Finland and Portugal, as well as the Toronto-Hamilton and Halton-Peel areas and Niagara and Newfoundland.

There is still room for a few

registrations in the ten-week course that begins in April. Interested applicants should contact Frank LaFrance, Sheridan College, Brampton.

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New Year Greetings

We're making lots of plans for the New Year, including special ones that will help us show our loyal patrons how much we appreciate them.

CUSTOM CLEANERS

Christmas dinner highlight of Sunshiners' holiday fun

The students of Sunshine School for the Mentally Retarded at Hornby enjoyed Christmas festivities that began December 10, principal Mrs. R. Jeffares reports.

A visit to Toronto Fairyland was organized that day, and 20 senior students held a Christmas dinner Dec. 12.

To it they invited a number of persons who have been particularly helpful to them and the school during the past year, including F. J. Reynolds, administrator for schools for retarded children in Ontario; their bus drivers, swimming instructors, librarians and other helpful organizations from outside the immediate school staff.

The dinner was prepared by the students themselves and members of the Georgetown Kinsmen Club supplied and decorated a Christmas tree.

The Club also helped out at the Dec. 20 concert, with Kinsman Yogi Lavoie taking the role of Santa Claus with two other members as assistants.

Santa and helpers later went to the H.O.P.E. Workshop to entertain and have dinner with the workers there.

Rockwood churches unite in service

The Presbyterian and United Churches in Rockwood united in one congregation on Christmas Sunday morning. They met in Centennial School auditorium for a special Christmas service consisting of carols and readings associated with the birth of Christ.

The combined choirs sang several anthems with Mrs. Frank Allsop at the organ.

A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

May laughter light your way, may your dreams come true and may health and happiness shine on you and your loved ones in the New Year.

FRED L. WRIGHT
20 WILBUR ST. N. ACTON

HAPPY NEW YEAR

The most sincere wish is proclaimed today that the New Year bring the best of luck to you and all your loved ones. It has indeed been a pleasure to serve you the year long. Thanks!

DILLS STATIONERY

for the New Year

We wish you all the old fashioned joys: health, wealth and happy times! With these wishes go sincere "thank you's" for loyalty shown us in the past. May you have a Happy New Year!

RACHLIN JEWELLERS