



Are your horses looking like thistledown these days? Despite the changeable weather most horses are rapidly shedding their coats and happily rolling in every available mud puddle.

People tend to visit at this time of year, getting out for a drive. Naturally it's part of the game to drop in on friends. I love to see visitors but am quite ashamed to show off the stock, what with the chickens going into moult, the cats just coming out of it (the dog is constantly shedding). The horses look as if they've spent the winter in a lumber camp—one that didn't spare the groceries—and the donkeys are unmentionable altogether.

Everybody in the bath
Some time in late March or April—usually on the first really warm Saturday—we have a grand tidy up of beasts. Everything within grabbing reach is pinned down and vacuumed or brushed heartily.

Even though your horses may look as rough as mine, it's possible to make an appreciable difference in their appearance now.
Manes can be trimmed, clipped or pulled—whichever hairstyle your horse wears. Tails can be washed and thoroughly brushed out. If it's warm enough, tails can also be washed but it's too early to bathe the whole body yet.

Have a farrier trim the hooves and remove winter shoes, replacing with summer ones if necessary. A horse should not be ridden on hard roads with winter calks in his shoes; too much concussion for his poor little feet.

Pink skin is trouble
With scissors or clippers trim the long hair around the head, from under the jaw, and the extra long hair sticking out of the ears. Don't remove hair from inside ears and don't trim fetlock hair yet. The long leg hair acts as mud protection until the weather has dried up for good. Clipped legs often get cracked heels in the wet—kind of like chibblains.

In fact, any fine-skinned white-socked horse with little fetlock hair should be well rubbed with vaseline on his heels. White hair means pink skin which is not as tough as black skin (no racial remarks, please).

After giving the horse a thorough grooming, polish him off with a piece of chambray, soft cloth or hay wisp. It won't make him look much better if he's shedding, but it will be good for you and make you think you're trying.

By May, your horse will turn into a swan and be ready to dress up your front pasture again. As you admire his shiny coat, think of me. I'll still be pulling lumps of hair out of my donkeys. They finish shedding on August 10th and start getting their winter coats on August 11th.

Ospringe

Florida vacations for area residents

By Doris Fines
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Norman accompanied friends on a trip to Florida for two weeks. They reported the frost had practically ruined the fruit. Frozen oranges were hanging off the trees, shrivelling up. They wouldn't be picked. They were on a thousand mile tour, and said the frost had nipped the palm trees and vegetation as far south as Miami.

Mr. and Mrs. William Rupka motored to Virginia where they visited with their son William at Virginia Beach. William is an officer in the navy at Norfolk Navy Base. They then went on to Florida where Mr. Rupka's brothers and sisters were holidaying near Orlando. They enjoyed their trip very much and said it was cool in

NDP calls for priorities

A call for a provincial study on setting priorities for the use of lands came last week from New Democratic Party (NDP) candidate Marion Chambers. Mrs. Chambers is in Wellington-Dufferin-Peel riding.

"Considering the obvious importance of food production one might suppose that the 'green paper' with guidelines to preserve agricultural land would have preceded the policy for mineral aggregate resource management," Mrs. Chambers told an NDP meeting at Caledon.

The NDP candidate said that she felt a study to establish priorities in the use of land should come first.

Ballinafad

Community saddened

By Winifred Smith
The Lenten services are continuing, Sunday being the fourth Sunday in Lent. The sermon dealt with Five Secrets Of Great Living. The children's choir, under the direction of Bob Pinkerton sang a beautiful anthem.

This being the beginning of the school holiday week, many families were away. On that account the minister's study group and the Confirmation class will not be held this week on the regular days. The Confirmation class will be held on Sunday afternoon at the church.

The lovely basket of flowers placed at the front of the church was in memory of Mr.

Thompson of Hillsburgh, who recently passed away. Mr. Thompson was the father of Mrs. Delmar French.

Saddened
The community was saddened on Sunday to hear of the death of Mr. Robert Warne. The Warne family were residents here for many years. Mr. Warne was Sunday school superintendent for many years and took an active part in church work. We extend sympathy to his family.

The Leitch families and Mr. and Mrs. L. Marshall were saddened also this past week when they heard the news of the death of 16-year-old

Donna Leitch who was injured in a car accident recently. She was the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Leitch. The funeral took place from Fergus Funeral home on Saturday.
Mrs. Jesse McEnery spent some time in Guelph on Wednesday where she visited her cousin Mrs. Young.
Mr. and Mrs. Jesse McEnery went to Galt on Thursday where they visited old time friends Mrs. Peter Sinclair and Mr. and Mrs. Ken Macdonald. They were former Erin residents who now make their home in Galt. Mrs. Macdonald has been a sufferer of arthritis for a long time and is now quite crippled with the disease.

Eden Mills

Members enjoy California tour

by Mrs. Georgina Wright
The Friendly Seniors had a treat in store for them at their meeting Wednesday afternoon, when Mr. & Mrs. Ed Jennings showed slides of their trip by bus tour to California.

Sitting comfortably in our club room, we travelled along with them through different places of interest, including San Antonio, New Mexico, Tijuana, on to San Diego zoo, to Disneyland and Hollywood, etc. A hearty vote of thanks was extended to them by the president Anna Wilson.

Minutes of last meeting and treasurer's report were given but no business discussed. All members wore something green it being the day before St. Patrick's Day or a fine would be imposed. Three

members were lagged. Elva Milne gave a reading (Ma and the Auto) and Georgie Wright read a poem "Begorrah, It's St. Patrick's Day." An hour of cards and refreshments followed.

The U.C.W. of the United Church held another successful luncheon in the community hall Wednesday from 12 o'clock.

The Tuesday Women's Club had a craft show at the same time in the dance hall, Mrs. Nora McLean was the winner of the draw. She won a Holly doll.

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Bell and family have returned home after a week at Owls Head, Quebec on a skiing trip. They had disappointing weather.

Announcement



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Limehouse

Officers elected

By Mrs. Art Henton
Sherry Willis has become a sixer and Judy Thomson a seconder in the Fairy Six of Limehouse Browne pack. Loanna Ruggiero is a new Tweenie. Pack leader is Mrs. Ron Thomson.

The ladies are seeking girl guide leaders. Anyone interested call Mrs. Thomson at 853-1156 or Mrs. Willis at 877-8078. The local association report they are alive and well, and have resourceful ladies anxious to call you.

We are sorry to hear that Mrs. Ryan fell and broke her wrist a couple of weeks ago.

Meeting
The Limehouse church women's association met at the home of Mrs. Ted Brown Sr. on March 15, 1977 at 7 p.m. Following a delicious pot luck supper the election of officers was held. President Ruth Linham; vice-president Jean Kirkwood; secretary Marion Lindsay; Treasurer Betty Anne Karn.

Several new members joined and it was decided to hold the meetings the last Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be held on April 26, 1977, 8 p.m. at the church.

Inez Crighton presented Marg Appleyard, past president, with a gift as a token of appreciation for her leadership over the past ten years.

Following several contests Marg Appleyard extended a warm thank you to the hostess for a lovely evening.

The meeting closed with the Mizpah Benediction.

A pleasant afternoon was spent on Thursday when Mrs. Ralph Hollis was hostess for a

baby shower for Mrs. Keith Cairns and her little son Michael Keith.

Summer plans for sports are in the making. Baseball registration will be from one to 3 p.m. on Mar. 27 at the Scout Hul. Coaches are desperately needed. Please contact Ted Batchelor 877-8748.

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