

John Diefenbaker visits district home



RT. HON JOHN DIEFENBAKER was a guest at the area home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Maloney on the weekend, prior to his installation at Cambridge as the Honorary Chieftain of the Clans during Highland Games there. He is seen with Mr. and Mrs. Maloney outside their home. Mr. Maloney is Ontario's Ombudsman.

By Jim Mills
It was a quiet interlude before the public appearance. The family room at the district home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Maloney was informal and inviting as John Diefenbaker recalled his Scottish ancestry which he interspersed with anecdotes.

His tall, straight figure was erect as he proudly wore his kilt, symbolic of the Campbell Clan. There was coffee, and sandwiches were offered with the warning that lunch would be a while away.

No, there would be no trouble about the speech for today. He bristled as he recounted the morning report that a Committee of the Canadian Bar Association recommended the Queen no longer be Canada's head of state. The recommendation suggests the Queen be head of

the Commonwealth and Canada's new head of state be a Canadian who might be called something other than Governor-General.

Today the Rt. Hon. John G. Diefenbaker was to be installed as the Honorary Chieftain of the Clans at the fourth annual Cambridge Highland Games, and the speech would not be difficult.

An OPP helicopter whirled overhead preparing for a landing at the Maloney farm on the Guelph Line, and the Games Master of Ceremonies, Joel Aldred, was explaining the installation procedure that would take place within a few minutes in Cambridge.

The heavy sky overhead was releasing its fine drizzle, but Mr. Diefenbaker was far from disturbed. "We needed this rain. Everything is so

dreadfully dry," he observed. "Besides we Baptists are used to the water," he chuckled.

He's told us too, how proud he is of the honor that is to be bestowed today, reminding that he's been awarded honors that someone has said make him the most honored Canadian of all time. Today's honor is in perpetuity.

His mother was born Mary Florence Bannerman and his grandmother was a Campbell of Argyle. His great grandparents lived in Caldoun Strath in Sutherlandshire. When the Countess of Sutherland thought sheep more important than people, the Bannermans joined the Selkirk settlers and came to Canada, arriving in the Red River area of Manitoba in 1814. Several years later they joined the Scottish settlement near Bradford, Ontario.

One of those quirks of history occurred at about the same time as the clearance from Kildonan. The father of the later to be, Sir John A. Macdonald, was aroused by the clearances and moved to Glasgow where Sir John A. was born in 1815.

Thus the Countess of Sutherland quite unintentionally was instrumental in Canada becoming the recipient of two of its prime

ministers, the first, Sir John A. Macdonald, and the 13th Rt. Hon. John G. Diefenbaker.

Participating in the ceremony on Saturday was Ontario's Ombudsman, Arthur Maloney and the installation was by Joel Aldred.

In the family room, though, it was time for the official party to begin their airborne trip to the centre of the Cambridge Games. There were the farewells to the host Maloney family and a short walk across the green lawns, past the attractive flower beds and pond to the field where the OPP helicopter with Commissioner Graham had arrived.

The drizzle was not enough to dampen the mood and flying, they were assured, was quite safe. Strapped in, Mr. Diefenbaker was in front with pilot Len Gunson where there would be plenty to see.

The motors hummed, the blades whirled and a smooth lift off sent the official party on its way from north Milton to the games in Cambridge, presented by the Waterloo Regional Police Association. And Canada's 13th prime minister, Rt. Hon. John G. Diefenbaker was on his way to receive another in the long list of honors that have been bestowed upon him.

Diefenbaker in village Friday

by Barb Wynneek
John Diefenbaker in Rockwood? Are you serious? Ask Ann Dale and Herb Saunders in the bakery and they will tell you that, sure enough, last Friday evening, Mr. Diefenbaker, the former Canadian Prime Minister, was in the shop, then "mainstreeted" along Rockwood's Main St., shaking hands with pedestrians and dropping in all the stores. Ontario Ombudsman Arthur Maloney and Joel Aldred (the Dominion Store ad man on T.V.) accompanied "The Chief". Mr. Diefenbaker was a guest at the Maloney home in Nassagaweya.

Dairy Bar owner, Guy Lavoy, described his surprise when Mr. Maloney called in the door that he had a distinguished visitor for him. Mr. Lavoy says that he recognized Dief right away. Not only had they seen him in the papers and on T.V., the Lavoy had met him and shook his hand in Whitney, Ontario in 1963. Mr. Diefenbaker said that he too remembered the Lavoy's. Mr. Lavoy and his wife enjoyed the story and the joke told by the old gentleman, Mr. Diefenbaker promised to send the Lavoy's a photo of himself, of his wife and even the dog, if he was mailed a self-addressed envelope. The Chief laughingly said that no stamp was needed for this government business.

Mr. Diefenbaker's visit provided a stir of excitement in the village, and all who met him were impressed with the aged politician's vitality.

Free Press

ROCKWOOD & DISTRICT

10 The Acton Free Press, Wednesday, Aug. 2, 1978



WATER COLOR artists Mike and Merrill sit in the shade of the Eden Mills Presbyterian Church driveway and paint the Chandler dairy barn, off in the corn fields. They are taking part in Jack Reid's water color workshop.



JACK REID sits at his easel and demonstrates the technique used to get the gradation in his water color wash. Mr. Reid, one of Canada's foremost artists has been conducting workshops this summer from Rockmosa Centre, Rockwood.

Mini-twister hits Guelph and area

A mini-twister swept through Guelph last Wednesday causing thousands of dollars of damages in its path.

The twister came just a few days short of one year after a terrific thunderstorm tore up parts of Georgetown ripping off roofs and felling trees. Exactly one year before last year's storm, a mini-twister hit Georgetown, damaging stores, homes, felling trees and hydro lines and in one case, lifting up a moving car and depositing the vehicle

Students and teacher paint Rockwood area

by Barb Wynneek
Rockwood and its surrounding scenes were being depicted on canvas last week by renowned Canadian water color artist Jack Reid and his students.

Mr. Reid, a man who has a gift when dealing with both paints and people, used Rockmosa Centre as the home base for his week long workshops. The artists then fanned out over the countryside to paint the Eramosa River, scenes at the Rockwood Academy, and historic local buildings, barns, the old stone hotel in Eden Mills as well as the dairy barn in Eden Mills where Mr. Reid told his students, the farmer thought so much of his chickens, he installed stained glass windows in their coop.

Many pipers at Fergus

A record number of bands—48—are lined up for this month's Fergus Highland Games. The old mark was 52.

The total number of musical groups is 53.

Appearing at the games, which start August 12, will be such bands as the Royal Canadian Legion Massed Pipe Band, the Old 7th Fraser Highlanders, the Fergus Pipe and Brass Band and the Deeside Ladies Pipe Band from Aberdeen, Scotland.

Blue Grass clears \$2,500

The Hillsburgh Country Blue Grass Jamboree cleared \$2,500, almost ensuring the festival will go next year, according to organizers.

Eramosa library notes

by Georgina Kelso
Following is the monthly bulletin from Eramosa Community Library.

Summer hours are in effect during July and August. Tuesday and Thursday 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Recent arrivals at the library include:

Adult fiction: A Child is Missing by Charlotte Paul; Sons of Fortune by Malcolm MacDonald; Bandicut by Richard Condron; The Answer in the Tide by Elizabeth Ogilvie; Consider Yourself Dead by James H. Chase.

Juvenile Primary Fiction: The Happy Lion in Africa by Louise Fatio; On the Farm by Richard Scarry; Freckle Juice by Judy Blume; Arthur Hutchcock in the Mystery of the Silver Spider by R. Arthur; The Jungle Pyramid by Franklin Dixon.

Non Fiction: P.E.T. in Action by Dr. T. Gordon; Margaret the Tragic Princess by James Brough; The Last of the Arctic by William Kurelek; Child Neglect by N. Balonsky; Welcome to the Middle Years by Robert Taylor

OMB rules for bridge

The Ontario Municipal Board ruled last week in favor of a second bridge across the Flora gorge, however, anti-bridge groups say they will appeal the decision to the provincial cabinet.

No water

It is now August 1. Water and sewers are not yet operational. Apparently after this Thursday's council meeting the new turn on date will be announced.

Eden Mills Family reunion for Stevensons

By Wilda MacDongall
Visitors at the home of Mrs. W. and Mrs. J. Gilbertson were Mrs. E. Anderson of Mississauga and Mrs. T. Thompson of Toronto.

Mrs. Kay Stevenson had a family reunion at her home when seven of her children and their families gathered for a weekend.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. John Stevenson, Connie and Gordon from Red Deer, Alberta, Dr. and Mrs. Dan Stevenson, Tom, Brian, Kathryn and Gregory from Kemptonville, Mr. and Mrs. James Stevenson, Lori, David, Jennifer, and Rob de Groot from Stoney Creek, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Fleck, Trevor and Suzanna, from Mississauga; Mr. and Mrs. James Douglas and Marlene from Oakville; Mr. and Mrs. John Krug from Kitchener and Dr. and Mrs. Jim Henry, Richard, Jane and Judy from Guelph. It was a very happy occasion for brothers, sisters and cousins.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Parker, Mrs. Robert Gilbertson and Jim Gilbertson attended the wedding of Miss Marilyn Darby and Lynn Gordon at Ingolsby, Ont. Miss Darby is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Darby, former residents of this area.

Sharon Gilbertson spent a week at Girl Guide camp in Goderich and now sister Kerri is at Brownie camp there.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Chamberlain spent a week



CHATting in the family room of the Maloney home south-west of Acton, Mr. Diefenbaker reminisces and chuckles over some of his background and incidents from his long-term public service.

Style changed

The style in which the horse is now ridden hardly resembles the English park style from which it originated and is the source of much controversy between Saddle horse enthusiasts and conventional English hunt seat riders.

The saddle seat is quite the opposite of the hunt seat. Riders sit well back on the cantle of the saddle with body upright or even, leaning slightly rearward. The legs are extended out and forward from the saddle, the hands held high, the whole body bouncing precariously along in what looks like an extremely uncomfortable manner. Correct saddle seat is supposed to be secure and balanced but any park saddle riders I've ever seen in demonstrations, films, television and in the recent show have appeared in danger of flying off their mounts at every corner—hardly 'at one' with the horse.

However, that's just my opinion.

Tail set high

Saddle horses are 'prettied up' by nicking the muscles of the tail and setting it high for a stylized tail arch designed to enhance the showiness of the animal. The practice is the subject of long criticism in the States and is totally unnecessary to 'beautify' an already extraordinary horse.

Several times I have ridden natural saddle horses—those without exaggerated action, overlong feet, or cut tail—and have never had a more delightful ride. They are full of sound and fury signifying nothing so one can prance along feeling like a fantastic rider yet be in no danger of falling off the high-headed, rocking-horse animal.

Show a success

The Georgetown show attracted about sixty Ontario horses—I had no idea there were so many in the province. I was disappointed there were no five-gaited classes. Apparently there are not enough horses in Ontario who can perform the unique saddler gaits. The horses I saw were traditional three-gaited horses—walk, trot, and canter, forgoing the rack and amble, the two gaits that make a Saddler distinctive.

It was also interesting to see horses jog trot when asked to walk. I was told the park walk is supposed to be 'animated', hence the jog. A real walk is called a 'fat foot walk'.

Riders gave frequent verbal commands to their mounts while in the showing, something that would get any English or western contestant turned out on his ear. Ring-side rooters were also advising favorite exhibitors while showing—another no-no.

But after years of watching horse after horse leap over jumps or gallop round the barrels it was certainly refreshing to watch a different kind of show with a different kind of horse.



SITTING ON THE bank of the Eramosa River, just below the Eden Mills bridge, Eva Van Zur Muehlen (left) and Susann Harpe (right) paint the willow tree and lily pad reflections. They are students of water color artist, Jack Reid.