



Georgetown cubs Joey Brillinger, Scott Corcoran, and Acton cubs Sean McDonald and Sean Pratt try to persuade Clarice to eat some hay at the Cub resource day, Saturday. Clarice was one of the many activities which kept the boys busy at the annual event.

PROFILES

with
Jennifer Barr

Spring is sprung, the grass is riz, I wonder where the lambies is. The lambies are piled high on Don Delaporte's farm north of Rockwood. The Delaporte barn is wall-to-wall lambs at this time of year—400 of them. Not to mention 300 mamas and several tired rams.

Don is not your average everyday sheep farmer. When Don attends a midnight lambing he wears a miner's helmet-lamp instead of wielding a flashlight. Don is partner in a company of mining engineers, Hill, Gutter and Delaporte. He and his wife Joan have lived all over much of the nation, including the Yukon and the Northwest Territories, producing five children in different provinces.

Don didn't settle in farming until six years ago when he purchased his Fifth Line, 150 acre, homestead. He says he comes from a farming background.

He originally intended to cash crop his place, filling the barns with feeder cattle. He has a theory that barns go to pot rapidly if they're not used.

While chasing after a herd of cattle due to be sold by auction he suddenly found himself the proud owner of 10 ewes.

Before he could blink the 10 ewes gave birth to 15 lambs and Don was amazed at the ease of it all. He was hooked on sheep.

Rapid expansion followed. Don bought another herd and had himself 450 sheep, two farms and a pack of problems.



Traipsing between two farms, even if they were close together, took some of the fun out of sheep farming so the Delaportes sold a farm and a hundred sheep.

"I found I could handle 350 sheep on this place after I built the silo," Don comments.

The silo enables him to feed 150 tons of haylage per year.

Lambing season is pretty well behind the Delaportes now. A few late lambs are expected by end of month. With 300 ewes this year a lamb crop of 400 is fairly low. Twins and triplets are usually encouraged by most farmers.

Don explains he had a large amount of big single birth lambs this year but is not unduly concerned. He prefers fewer lambs and discourages recent popular practices of breeding for triplets and quads. Fewer lambs mean less work, healthier youngsters and faster growth.

During lambing Don is up every three hours at night checking the ewes, assisting those having trouble with labor, and providing the preventive care so necessary for newborns.

Wool is cheap.

Sheep are also shorn in the spring relieving them of their heavy fleeces. Don's sheep are half Suffolk, a quarter Leicester, and a quarter Dorset. He also has some Corriedale breeding from his first herd of Corriedales.

Fleeces weigh in the neighborhood of seven pounds and sell for 70 cents a pound. Although wool is a byproduct of the sheep business, Don says wool prices have nowhere to go but up. With most of world fabrics now synthetic and made from petroleum byproducts Don feels wool is in a growing market. He agrees that new wool fibres made more versatile, shrink-proof, and lighter by research are becoming popular.

However, the sheep farmer makes his income from meat and most lambs are sold for this purpose.

The current market price is \$3.60 a pound for lamb so it's easy to see why sheep farmers feel they don't receive enough for their product.

However, Don says lamb is the up-and-coming meat of the 80's. Sheep dress out at a higher percentage of meat and have a much lower rate of cholesterol than comparative meats, Don explains. He eats his own lamb and loves the meat barbecue.

Don doesn't think he'll stay in sheep for long. Help is his biggest problem. He still works as a consultant for his mining-engineering company and needs good farm help, one full-time and several seasonal workers. But good help is very hard to find, Don says. He'd like to find someone who'd run the farm on a rental basis but so far hasn't any takers.

Until such time as Don quits sheep farming, he enjoys walking through his barns, pointing out his favourites, picking up a lamb for a cuddle and talking to the cats.



Don Delaporte

Daughters of Knox

Australian student guest speaker

The regular meeting of the Daughters of Knox was held on Monday, March 2. President Kae Hansen was in the chair and opened the meeting with a reading entitled "I am the Way".

"Living For Jesus" was sung, and the club mottoes repeated. Several guests were welcomed by the president.

In the absence of the recording secretary, Gladys Price, the minutes of the last meeting were read by Jane Robertson. The roll-call was answered with a craft item for the craft sale next fall. The treasurer's report was given by Faye Pink.

Several items of business were discussed, and it was announced that the next Brampton Presbyterian meeting would be held on March 25.

The meeting was then turned over to Avril Mathieson and her group who conducted the worship portion. Mrs. Mathieson opened with prayer, and the scripture lesson was read by Annetta Van Fleet. Jane Robertson read the "Meditation."

The hymn "I am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus" was then sung. Psalm 150 was read by Mary Findlay. The offering was received, and the offertory prayer given by Faye Pink. The hymn "Love Divine, all loves excelling" was sung and the closing prayer given by Anne Moore.

Kae Hansen then introduced the speaker of the evening, Miss Jennifer Nunan, a Rotary Club exchange student, from Alexandra, Australia. Jennifer gave us a most interesting slide show of Australian scenes, and in her accompanying commentary, told us many facts about the way of life in her country. At the end of her slide presentation, Jennifer played a piano solo—"Waltzing Matilda". Vivan Swallow expressed the thanks of the Daughters of Knox to Miss Nunan.

Refreshments were then served and an hour of fellowship enjoyed.

Leathertown

History committee meets this Sunday

The first meeting of the Leathertown committee researching the history of the industry in Acton will be held this Sunday at 7 p.m. at North American Piggyback, 21 Mill St. West. The public is invited to this meeting.

Headed by Donald Rankin, this committee will research the leather history of Acton and advise the committee which will soon be set up to design the permanent walking history tour of the town regarding points of interest, the text for plaques which will be on buildings around Acton, contents of exhibits and displays which will be set up and the information for a planned booklet for tourists and school trips visiting Leathertown.

It is hoped once initial research is completed a couple of displays can be set up in store windows similar to the Actario display at Family Cleaners downtown shop.

Several long-time residents have volunteered to work with Rankin on the committee as well as Halton Hills councillor and noted historian John McDonald.

While the committee now has a few members, more helpers are needed, not for committee work, but to provide facts and memories about Acton's leather industry. People attending the meeting on March 15 won't be drafted for committee work, only asked to share their knowledge.

The next Leathertown steering committee and public meeting will be held March 18, also at North American Piggyback.

Monte Carlo night to aid Leathertown

Considerable funds will be needed to promote Leathertown to its fullest as well as develop the permanent walking history tour.

The Acton Chamber of Commerce has come up with a fun way to raise funds for Leathertown.

A Monte Carlo night.

A committee of Chamber members with experience in staging such events has been assembled and they've picked April as the month to hold the Monte Carlo night at the rink.

The Chamber will be holding projects to raise funds for Leathertown all year too. Plans for the Monte Carlo night haven't been nailed down, but it is hoped they'll have "significant" door prizes, lots of games, a disc jockey and the event will be licenced.

"We want to put on a good big bash," Chamber head John Allinson said.

Leathertown slogan contest

Now that Leathertown has a logo the steering committee is appealing to the public and schools to come up with a motto or slogan.

Adults in the community are also asked to come up with mottos and slogans.

Details of a contest, with prizes, will be announced sometime in the next few weeks.

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Dog alerts family

An improperly placed smoke detector was useless when fire broke out in the bedroom of a Sixth Line, Limehouse home, Friday. The family dog, a beagle, alerted Mr. and Mrs. Ben Sheppard of the fire in their home.

Fire Prevention Officer Larry Brassard said the bedroom fire resulted in an estimated \$7,000 damage.

\$4.44

A-B FOODLAND MARKET

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES.

freshly minced regular ground beef 1.44	Birds Eye frozen 12 oz. Awake orange drink 2/1.44	Monarch pouch pack asst. flav. 9.8 oz. 278 g. 264 g. cake mixes 3/1.44
fresh tray pack chicken thighs & drumsticks 1.44	Birds Eye frozen 500 ml. Cool Whip 2/1.44	Monarch pouch pack 7.5 oz. chocolate or vanilla cream icing icing mixes 3/1.44
fresh meaty side spare ribs 1.44 lb.	product of Mexico cucumbers 4/1.44	Foodland fancy 48 oz. tomato juice 2/1.44
Maple Leaf 1/2 vac pack sweet pickled cottage rolls 1.44		evaporated 385 ml. Carnation 2% milk 3/1.44

Prices effective March 11, 12, 13, 14/81.

Maple Leaf asst. var. 375 g. pkg. sliced bologna Maple Leaf 175 g. pkg. sliced cooked ham Shopsy's 1 1/2 lb. size mini corned beef brisket 1/2 boneless ready to serve dinner ham stom. pigged or link style breakfast sausage Canada Packers Devon brand sliced breakfast bacon 500 g. pkg.	1.44 1.44 2.39 2.09 1.44 1.44	Swanson 8 oz. frozen dish macaroni & cheese Swanson 8 oz. frozen dish macaroni & beef Pyl Alpha Bits 450 g. Jolly Miller 3 1/2 oz. orange flav. drink crystals 3g Carnation Coffee Mate 500 g. liquid detergent Bony 12 L. Keg o' Ketchup 909 ml. Del Monte assorted fruits 19 oz. Slicks pizza with garlic, Polish whole dills 1 L. Dare's Brogymo asst. var. cookie 500 g. Weston pkg. of 8 English muffins	3/1.44 2/1.44 1.69 .98 1.99 3.29 1.59 .98 1.29 1.18 .79	Aylmer choice 14 oz. wax beans, peas or cream style corn Coles ready cut macaroni or long spaghetti 500 g. liquid detergent Pine-Sol 800 ml. Tenderflake 454 g. land 1 lb. Total Diet dog food 8 kg. Kam luncheon meat 12 oz. Carnation frozen Tater Tots 2 lb. Red Rose tea bags 60's Hi-Dri white & yellow paper towels 2 rolls Kleenex ply white, pink, yellow facial tissue 100 Weston pkg. of 6 lemon filled buns Country Kitchen 250 g. pkg. whipped butter	4/1.44 2/1.44 1.99 2/1.44 8.99 1.44 .89 1.89 .99 3/1.44 .99 1.29
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Fresh Daily Produce

Ontario No. 1 10 lb. bag
potatoes 1.79

Ontario Fancy 3 lb. bag
McIntosh apples .79