

High wind grounds balloon

High winds kept people grounded for much of the Balloon Fiesta held over the weekend at Blue Springs Scout Reserve. Local organizer Al Russell reported there were five balloons on hand for an excellent flight Sunday morning in the direction of Fergus. However, high winds kept the balloons down Friday and Saturday except for short tether rides both afternoons. "April has been exceptionally windy, well above normal," Russell noted. Final figures aren't in yet, but he expects the admission charges, refreshments and tether rides raised about \$250 for the Boy Scouts of Canada. Attendance was kept down by the poor weather, with only about 25 people coming out to Blue Springs Friday. Over 200 were on hand Saturday, he said. Only about 30 people were able to enjoy tether rides the two days. Planning for future balloon festivals has already started. Russell says organizers are looking at having a "Harvest Crunch Balloon Rally" on Thanksgiving weekend in October and a "Queen's Balloon Rally" on the long May weekend in 1982. Both events would be at Blue Springs.



Al Russell prepares Rainbow Two for flight at this past weekend's Balloon Fiesta at Blue Springs Scout Reserve.

PROFILES



with Jennifer Barr

The current western clothing fad and a surging interest in keeping exotic fowl has created a new craft industry. Kate Hale of R.R. 3 Acton is cashing in by making feather jewelry and accessories.

Her biggest selling item right now is western hat bands usually made from pheasant feathers. Matched feather earrings, necklaces, stickpins, combs and hat ties back up the hat band market and will take up the slack when (and if) western hats fall out of favor.

Kate works out of her kitchen on the farm she and husband Roy inhabit north of Acton. Space usually reserved for a breakfast nook is piled high with boxes, beads, pins, a work desk and feathers—masses of feathers! It doesn't pay to sneeze in Kate Hale's kitchen, allergy sufferers beware.

All her creations are works of art but Kate's hat bands are exquisite. A cut above the usual feather decorations Kate's bands consist of carefully matched feathers from each side of the contributing bird, glued to suede bands. The centre of each band peaks to a pinnacle of colorful symmetrical feathers forming a tiara effect. Consisting almost exclusively of natural (undyed) feathers, Kate's bands sell for \$25 to \$150. Each one is an original, no two are alike.

Kate started this business a year ago after marrying and settling down in the country. Prior to this she was a school librarian and dedicated traveller.

Now her trips are confined to marketing her goods which are sold from Toronto to St. Catharines. Fortunately Ray is in the western hat and boot sales business and so combines the two effectively.

Tired of city life and wanting to work for herself Kate experimented with feather earrings initially, using feathers from old-fashioned dusters. One thing led to another. She met people who bred colorful birds thus ensuring a supply of quality feathers. Trial and error plus a great deal of patience produced a marketable line of products. Kate was off and running.

Most of her jewelry utilizes a wide variety of pheasant feathers—goldens, ring-necks, silvers and Reeves' pheasants. However, light jewelry often requires the addition of dyed chicken feathers. Once in a while, Kate manages to acquire partridge, guinea fowl, or peacock feathers for interesting variations.

She also uses feathers from tropical birds bred by friends, although she has to wait for birds to molt these. Other feathers are purchased still on the bird.

Kate has learned to skin birds herself, tacking the feathered skin on a board to study natural patterns and obtain matching feathers.

The remainder of the bird is eaten either by Kate and Roy who enjoy pheasant breasts with sickening regularity or Jessie the dog who dines on exotic steaks.

"I use the whole bird. It's just like the Indian with the Buffalo—that's how I justify it," Kate comments.

"Three years ago if anyone had told me I'd end up like this..." she laughs, shrugging at her chicken-plucking kitchen.

Orders come in by the hundreds. Kate has turned down several requests for mass produced items. Working alone enables her to put out a limited amount of quality products, she explains.

Because she invests considerable time and care in each item ("we use mostly birds of taxidermist quality") Kate is concerned what stores sell her goods. Displaying them properly is crucial to proper salesmanship, she feels, adding it enhances her work when the public can enjoy it fully.

Most of her bands and jewelry are set on a background of black velvet with focus lighting picking out the colors. Better stores purchase the more expensive items and make sure they're displayed well.

Kate is pleased with a new account from Arcade hats in the Sheridan Centre, Toronto. Several account inquiries came as a result of her booth at Quarterama horse show in Toronto recently.

Locally, her work may be purchased through the Erin Craft Coop in Erin or from Kate herself. Some of her earlier hat bands can be seen at the Hide House.

What happens when the fickle fashion market forgets feathers and embraces something else? "Well, I'll scurry on to something new," says Kate brightly. "That's the beauty of this business," she adds, "there's minimal investment

so it's easy to make a change". However, until feathers bite the dust, Kate will continue plucking and gluing, creating unique Kate Hale hat bands.



Kate Hale modelling one of her own pheasant feather hat bands.



Halton Regional Police Inspector Ian McPherson drew the Actario tickets Saturday morning.

Ministers sponsor family film topics

A series of seven films covering various family related topics will start Tuesday at Robert Little Public School.

Acton's Ministerial Association is sponsoring the films. The general public is welcome. The series is comprised of one film each Tuesday evening at 8 p.m. for seven weeks.

The first film, titled The Strong-Willed Child, will be shown Tuesday. The following two films are—Shaping the Will Without Breaking the Spirit and Christian Fathering.

The balance of the series is divided between films on preparing for adolescence and what wives wish their husbands knew about women.

"The films are balance for the whole family," Rev. Arthur Tribe said. A "leading Christian Authority on the family" James C. Dobson prepared the films. He is the author of a number of books including Dare to Discipline.

Golden Agers Plan trip to Wonderland

On April 15 at St. Alban's Hall a well attended evening meeting of the Golden Age Club was held.

Several more members signed up to go to Wonderland in June. The trip to see the tulips in Ottawa is filled.

Lillian Berry reported on the splendid quilt ticket sales at Stone Road Mall the previous week. This was very gratifying and the quilt committee thank all members who gave their time.

The building group were Gladys Davidson, Jean Jackson, Emma Near and Harvey Young. Anne and Joe Berry, celebrating their 35th and Harry and Edna Besley their 50th the previous Sunday, received the anniversary greetings.

Three new members were welcomed to the club.

A sing-song was enjoyed before and after the entertainment. We were privileged to have the Music Maker which is a quartette from the Mississauga Sweet Adelines.

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Blue Bonnet 1 lb. 2 x 8 oz. **soft margarine .89**

McCain frozen 2 lb. **hash brown potatoes .69**

Laura Secord **pudding .59** family size 15 oz. asst. flav. white granulated 2 kg. **sugar 1.79** LIMIT 3 BAGS PER FAMILY

T-Bone or Wing steaks	2.99 lb.
Round Steak • Rump • Sirloin Tip	2.69 lb.
beef roasts	2.69 lb.
Store Sliced fresh beef liver	.79 lb.
Maple Leaf 1/2 cryovac s.p. cottage rolls	1.59 lb.
Swift Premium 1 lb. pkg. wieners	1.39 lb.
Devon 500 g. pkg. breakfast bacon	1.59 lb.
Store Pak breakfast sausage	1.49 lb.

ITEM	OUR PRICE	CORP. STORE	DIFF.
Medium Ground Beef	2.09	2.48	39¢
Regular Ground Beef	1.69	1.98	29¢
Loin Pork Chops (Center Cut)	2.29	2.48	19¢
Loin Pork Chops (Fast Fry)	2.39	2.68	29¢
Fresh Chickens (3-4 lb. avg.)	1.29	1.48	17¢
Chicken Legs	1.49	1.98	49¢
Blade Roast or Short Rib Roast	2.09	2.39	30¢
McIntosh Apples (10 lb.)	1.09	1.39	30¢
Green Beans	1.09	1.09	60¢
Cauliflower	1.49	1.79	30¢
Bunch Carrots	.59	.59-.79	10¢-20¢
Cooking Onions (2 lbs.)	.79	.98	19¢
Green Peppers	1.19	1.69-1.99	50¢-80¢
Potatoes (10 lbs.)	2.49	2.69-2.79	20¢-30¢

McCain frozen 700 g. raspberry or strawberry **shortcake 2.19**

Stokely 14 oz. red or New Orleans style **kidney beans 2/1.00**

fabric softener 4.15 3 L. **Downy 3.99**

Saico 185 g. **white tuna 1.59**

Five Roses 5 kg. unbleached or reg. all purpose **flour 4.39**

Melitta Prem blend **coffee 1 lb. tins 3.59**

Del Monte peaches, pears, tropical, cocktail **fancy fruits 14 oz. .79**

Leaver pieces & stems **mushrooms 10 oz. .89**

Van Camp 14 oz. **beans with pork .58**

Saico **baby clams 5 oz. 1.59**

Puritan beef, Irish, meatball **stew 24 oz. 1.79**

Kellogg's **Raisin Bran 800 g. 2.29**

Kellogg's **Special K 475 g. 1.99**

orange crystals poly pack 3 1/2 oz. **Tang 4x 1.49**

Pharma nest, fly **Tender Vittles 500 g. 1.29**

Johnson large **baby powder 250 g. 1.99**

McCain frozen citrus beverage **Revive 125 oz. .89**

McCain frozen Florentina or Parisienne **vegetables 2 lb. 1.59**

Facelle Royale 1g. pkg. (SAVE 28¢) **3-ply facial tissue .79**

Weston pkg. of 12 (SAVE 25¢) **wiener or hamburger rolls .89**

Weston pkg. of 8 (SAVE 18¢) **English muffins .79**

Weston pkg. of 6 (SAVE 30¢) **jam filled buns .99**

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