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SUGARBUSH VISITORS

Last weekend's cold snap slowed sap flow in sugar bushes across the province to a trickle, but fire logs still snapped and cracked underneath the maple syrup boiler at the Mountsberg Wildlife Centre west of Campbellville. The result, a seemingly endless flow of delicious Grade A diet-breaker which is bottled, turned into candy or sloshed over pancakes and sausages from the pancake hut across from the boiler house. Mountsberg's maple syrup festival continues each weekend until April 20 and

the abundance of birds and animals scattered throughout the centre shouldn't be missed by youngsters and their parents. The centre is located on the Milliken-Hamilton-Wentworth town line, about six miles west of the Guelph Line-Fifth Sideroad intersection. Call 878-4131 weekdays or 845-2276 weekends for more information.

(Herald photos by Chris Aagaard)

Producer says *Honest Thief* rated well with audience

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer
Still searching for a North American distributor, the producers of "Never Trust An Honest Thief" are enthusiastic about initial public response to the film (or which extensive shooting was carried out in Georgetown and Glen Williams. Questionnaires completed by viewers following a special screening Feb. 23 at Toronto's Bloor Cinema indicate that they found the \$4 million feature "funny and entertaining". Magder Studios spokesman Monique Savarin told The Herald Friday.

Westfront Productions and Magder Studios, both based in Toronto, hope the questionnaire will encourage distributors to pick up the film and present it to audiences across North America. It's not unknown for movies to have trouble finding distributors, Ms. Savarin explained, noting that distribution companies prefer to be sure they have a market for the film, a market determined by current public tastes.

"There are so many reasons why a film isn't being distributed," she said. "Horror films, for example, were very popular a while back, so distributors look at what is selling before releasing a film."

Ms. Savarin estimated that between 400 and 500 people filled in and returned the questionnaire, which covered viewers' age, sex and a rating of whether they found the film excellent, good, average or below average. "There have been previous screenings for workers and people who helped out with the production, but we wanted to go out and get a fresh reaction from a paying audience," Ms. Savarin said.

What the audience saw at last month's preview was noticeably different from the completed feature which followed the Georgetown filming in August and September, 1979. Great segments of the original *Honest Thief* ended up on the cutting room floor while extensive footage was re-shot in Georgia and the Bahamas. In the process, Toronto's Michelle Finney, who had a starring role in the original script, ended up with a substantially smaller role in the final product, while Anne Lange moved in to become the movie's main "love interest". Ms. Savarin explained that some people felt the original *Honest Thief* was too slow in parts. "We had an original film which wasn't our liking. The first cut was not acceptable, the story changed a bit and there were some character changes. That's show business."

Police Beat Suspect arson in GDHS fire

Arson is suspected in a fire Wednesday afternoon at the Georgetown District High School. Students and staff evacuated the building when the alarm rang at 1:15 p.m., standing outside in chilly temperatures for 25 minutes until firefighters pronounced it safe for classes to resume. There was no serious damage to the school from the fire, which started in the physical education office near the third gym. The office, shared by four teachers, had a small desk top burned slightly and one wall singed, school principal Don Baker said.

Strikes abatement

A man who had been drinking lost control of his car while making a curve in the road, entered an Armstrong Avenue ditch and struck a concrete abutment Saturday at 2 a.m. There was \$9,500 damage to the vehicle and the Georgetown man was taken to Georgetown Memorial Hospital with minor injuries.

Neighbor spots crime

A pool lifeguard apprehended two 12-year old boys outside the McKenzie-Smith Middle School in Acton Saturday afternoon after a neighbor observed them entering the school through an open south side window and alerted the lifeguard. The lifeguard held the boys for police questioning. Nothing was stolen or damaged in the incident.

Rafters on a limb

Firefighters were called to their first water rescue of the year Friday afternoon when a woman and a man taking a raft down the Credit River near Sideroad 27 in Terra Cotta became stranded in the limbs of a tree. Twenty feet from the nearest shoreline, the couple were rescued by Halton Hills firefighters who used a ladder to make a bridge from the shoreline to the tree. Firefighters said the water was over ten feet deep.

Sought by TRU, turns self in

A psychiatric patient who was the subject of a small-scale search by Halton regional police Thursday is now under treatment at Guelph's Hemlock Sanatorium. Shortly after members of the force's Tactical Rescue Unit began searching the Maple Avenue-Trafalgar Road area for the Norval resident who police say has "violent tendencies", a local church minister informed police that the man had shown up at his home. Plainclothes officers picked up the patient at the minister's residence without incident and escorted him to Hemlock. Police had initially been summoned by a doctor at Georgetown District Memorial Hospital, to whom the man had been brought by relatives. The patient left the hospital abruptly on foot, allegedly swinging a broom.

Bike fatality to court May 11

May 11 has been set for the county court judge and jury trial of a 32-year old Toronto man charged with criminal negligence causing death Aug. 27. Mr. Vicente has been charged with impaired driving and driving over 80 kilometres per hour in a 60-kilometre zone in connection with the same incident and is scheduled to appear in Milton Provincial Court April 26 on these charges. However, it is unlikely the crown will proceed on these charges until the more serious criminal negligence charge is resolved.

HOLY WEEK IN HALTON HILLS

His immortal teachings

By REV. JOHN DE JONG
Christian Reformed Church
When Jesus was buried on that Friday of long ago, the chief priests and the Pharisees were very uneasy. They went to Pilate the Roman government and asked for security: "Order the sepulchre to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away, and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead'!" (Matthew 27:64) Pilate's answer was rich with a half-humorous, half-hopeless irony. "Go," he said, "make it as secure as you can."

but his teachings which have been raised up to become immortal - like the art of Rembrandt and the music of Mozart. Or, perhaps his historical impact lives on. Or, maybe, his Spirit still broods over our world. Or, we can get very excited about the return of spring.

'Only sure things in life...': a crisis of confidence

By Dr. THOMAS HANDY
St. Andrew's United
In a recent newspaper, I read the report of a Gallop Poll that suggested Canadians are losing confidence in all the major political leaders and are yearning for some new person to rescue the country from its troubles. Of course, whether this poll is good news or bad news depends on your point of view. To my mind, the article simply underlined what I had already learned from a myriad of conversations: many Canadians are indeed suffering a "crisis of confidence". It is a crisis of confidence not only in their political leaders, but in themselves.

derably more grumbling in barbershops and hair salons; and an increasing tendency to "eat, drink and be merry" for tomorrow we shall surely either die or pay higher interest rates. Deep in their hearts, many citizens with brave smiles and the smell of alcohol on their breath fully believe that the only sure things in life are death and taxes. I am annually impressed by the fact that Easter and

Time for Passover in the year 5742

This weekend starts Holy Week for some, and the culmination of holy services to others. Friday is considered Good Friday for Christians, the day when Christ was crucified. Sunday of course is commemorated as the day Jesus rose from the grave, and completed that act of grace and made salvation complete.

IN THE CHURCHES

By Bob Ollivier

There were a great many people of the realm who watched Jesus die that day so long ago, and yet it was business as usual for most of them in the day following. The Romans put many to death for various reasons, and to make a continuation about it was to invite your own death. However, this was also the time of Passover for the Jewish people, and this of course was a Holy Week for them. This period is still held as of utmost importance in the Religious life of the Jew. The compilation of passages and rituals used for the "Seder" service (Passover) is known as the Haggadah. It came from the word V' Haggad-Ta (Exodus 13:8) "and thou shalt shew thy son in that day". Haggadah means "to tell" the story of Passover, to tell of God's redemptive grace. The Haggadah was originally brief. Succeeding generations have added their interpretations, legends and traditions. There are now over 1,200 different versions of the Haggadah. Yet with all this change, the basic principle is still of utmost importance: to tell following generations of the events which took place in Egypt. When God commanded the Children of Israel to leave Egypt, He commanded them to eat only unleavened bread with the pasover meal. Leaven is a symbol of sin in the scriptures, and Christ made the unleavened bread a symbol of His own sacrifice for our sins. One Corinthians 5:6-8 tells us, "Therefore let us keep the feast, not with the old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth". Let us search out the leaven of sin in our lives and so keep the feast of unleavened bread, the Pass-

over, as it is written, "but let a Man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup" (1 Cor. 11:28). Many of our Churches are holding special services to commemorate Easter Week. It behooves us to take part with those of like faith, or to worship with others at this time. It is the central point of our church year, although many feel that Christmas is the most important. How can one time be more important than another? Without Christ's Virgin birth and His sinless death, we would have no salvation. Halton Gospel Temple, who have just purchased a building in Erin as an extension of their work, are holding special services this Sunday. It will be a time for all the family. Maple Avenue Baptist Church is showing a film for

Jury still out

The jury was still deliberating its verdict for two Acton men charged with murder in connection with the 1970 Dominion Hotel fire as The Herald went to press today (Thursday). The 12-member jury began deliberations April 2. Charged are Dominion Hotel owner Cosimo Mercuri, 43, and one of his employees, Michael McCrystal, 49. A resident of the Main Street, Acton, hotel, 58-year old Howard Gibbons, died in the Aug. 19, 1970, fire.



Georgetown Choral Society soloist George De Kleer (at the piano) had only the tax on his back when he found himself and about 40 other Society members stranded in Chesley, where they performed Handel's "Messiah" Saturday night. When their chartered bus got stuck in an Arthur snowbank on the way to pick them up, Chesley music lovers who'd flocked to the concert took Choral Society members into their homes for the night. They performed the next morning during Sunday services at Geneva Presbyterian Church, where the concert had been held, and enjoyed a singalong at one of the homes where they'd stayed. (Photos submitted)

GCS' Chesley patrons were overnight hosts

The Georgetown Choral Society's first road trip of the season was a huge success - until the bus chartered to return the choir members home got stuck in a snowstorm. About 40 GCS members returned home chuckling Sunday evening from their well-received concert at Chesley's Geneva Presbyterian Church, but the evening before had held a rather disconcerting surprise. Having responded to a newspaper ad seeking Easter entertainment featuring a vocal group, and then firming up the engagement through connections with the Chesley church that had placed the ad, the Society made some basic plans for the excursion. Looking forward to a public warm-up session for their forthcoming "Encore" concert April 16, 17 and 18 at the John Elliott Theatre in Georgetown, Society members chartered a bus to transport them to Chesley, located near Hanover and Owen Sound, and return them the same day following their concert. Saturday's bus ride to the church, whose minister knows several choir members from university, was uneventful, and the concert - a performance of Handel's "Messiah" which is so popular with Halton Hills fans - was well-received and well-attended. Some 350 Chesley area residents thrilled to the choir's sound inside Geneva Presbyterian. Then came the surprise. Word arrived immediately after the concert that the chartered bus had become stuck in snow on its way back to Chesley from Georgetown, where the driver had returned after dropping the choir off earlier. Saturday night had brought the beginnings of a major snowstorm that would blanket the already thawing Ontario ground by the next morning. The bus couldn't make it past Arthur, a village not far from Fergus. Members of the Chesley church congregation came to the rescue, promptly arranging sleeping accommodations at a number of local homes for the stranded Georgetowners. The next morning, still waiting for the bus, GCS members performed a short concert during the Sunday service at Geneva Presbyterian. They left the small community that afternoon with fond farewells for those who had unexpectedly become much more than audience members.

'Broadway' show has violin prodigy

Back safe in their own homes and again gathering comfortably on familiar stages, the Georgetown Choral Society is looking forward to performing another of its most popular musical assemblages next Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights (April 16-18) at the John Elliott Theatre. Tickets for the three performances are available by calling 877-0237 evenings. "Selected Music from Broadway - Encore", this spring's ambitious hometown concert by the Society, will again see Halton Hills premier choir perform its renditions of popular music from the stage. Among the segments guaranteed to have feet tapping happily is an excerpt from "Fiddler on the Roof", whose lyrics and music by Sheldon Harnick and Terry Black have delighted audiences on and off Broadway for years. Three adolescent daughters all wishing for a husband sing "Matchmaker", referring to the village spinster who arranges the local weddings. Elliana Needham, Paulette Thibault, and Mary Lamson sing this catchy waltz-time song. And of course, "Fiddler" would not be complete without Papa, Paul Schwartz, who will entertain you with the song of dreams "If I were a Rich Man". Also featured in next weekend's "Encore" concert is a young guest musician, 13-year old Michael Phillips of Milton, who's been studying violin since he was three and will portray the famous fiddler of Anatevka.