

O Canada comes home to Limehouse

By ROB SAVAGE
Thomson News Service

Canadian students will receive an audible treat to celebrate the country's 125th anniversary in 1992.

Their schools will get high-quality copies of O Canada for the morning's exercises.

It should mean an end to the scratchy records most people remember. The new recordings feature more than 200 top artists - including Rita MacNeil, Luba and Alannah Myles - and are being sent free to all schools and radio stations in Canada.

They're the brain-child of Ross Carlin, of Limehouse, Ont. The radio morningman at DC 103.5 in Orangeville discovered in early 1991 that there are few recordings of O Canada available.

Even the government didn't have good copies of the anthem available, Carlin said.

"I thought it was a travesty that my kids would go through school without learning the words to O Canada, without having a decent copy to hear," Carlin told reporters.

He worked this past year to produce the new versions - officially launched Friday at a Toronto press conference - that offer both contemporary and symphonic versions (they are available on CDs and cassettes). The contemporary version features a mix of vocals that is similar to the Tears Are Not Enough record from a few years ago.

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Hounds of hell savage goats

By LISA BOONSTOPPEL-POT
The Herald

After two domesticated dogs slaughtered 36 of his purebred Saanen goats in a killing frenzy, William Alexander's worst fear is they'll be back to kill some more.

The Georgetown man has been farming dairy goats at his 10th Line farm for over 35 years and said he's never seen anything like the carnage he witnessed early Sunday morning when he went to feed a pen of kid goats.

He opened the door of the enclosure to see dead and dying goats with throats slashed and heads crushed by a large, black dog.

"I put the light on and the dog didn't even look up at me," recalls Mr. Alexander. "He was in a frenzy and he just ignored me."

Fearful of the dog, he closed the door and minutes later he saw it run off with another black dog, similar in size and appearance. The dogs entered and exited through a back door he left partially open for ventilation.

When he looked back in the pen, most of the goats were dead. The ones still living were in terrible pain, suffering from crushed skulls and gaping wounds. They had to be put down by a veterinarian.

Mr. Alexander says he knows the

vicious dogs are definitely not wild dogs because he followed one of the dogs tracks to the end of his laneway. The dogs had defecated there and Mr. Alexander said he could detect the remains of commercial dog food in it.

The dogs were obviously well fed because none of the slaughtered animals were eaten.

For Mr. Alexander, the loss of the animals is not only emotionally trying but a tremendous loss to his dairy goat business.

The kids that were in the pen were all born within the last four months which is out of season for goats. Mr. Alexander has specifically manipulated part of his herd's breeding with artificial light and pharmaceuticals in order to achieve the fall births. As in all commercial milk-producing animals, calving goats must be "dried" up before birth which creates a gap in milk production. By using artificial means to control reproduction with part of the herd, Mr. Alexander ensures that his herd produces milk all year around.

Mr. Alexander said because of the effort and expense of having fall births, the kids killed are more valuable and he estimates his loss at more than \$15,000.

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Bi-Way relocation threatens downtown

By BEN DUMMETT
The Herald

The Georgetown downtown core will incur a 'serious blow' if the Bi-Way store on Main Street moves to a Guelph Street location, says Elizabeth McNeilly, Chairperson of the Georgetown Central Business Improvement Area (BIA).

Contacted Monday, Bi-Way Assistant Manager, Angela Thomson confirmed the store's head office in Toronto is considering the

possibility of moving the store to a location in the Halton Hills Shopping Centre on Guelph Street.

However, she did say if the store is moved, it wouldn't happen until after the beginning of August.

Faced with the prospect of a possible move by Bi-Way, Ms. McNeilly, who also owns Elizabeth's Fashions on Main Street, said, "We (the BIA membership), hope it doesn't come to pass."

Referring to the Bi-Way store as a "very viable part of the downtown core" Ms. McNeilly said, "We'll do everything in our power to keep the store in the downtown area."

That includes the possibility of writing a letter to the store's head office, indicating how strongly the BIA membership supports the Bi-Way store remaining in its current location, said Ms. McNeilly.

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First baby of '92

Little Erin Ashton McConaghy, born at 4:17 a.m. January 2nd and weighing in at 6lbs, 15 1/2 ounces, couldn't be happier. This is their first child. (Herald photo by Steven LeBlanc)

Local food banks provided Christmas cheer for needy

The number of people using Halton Hills' food banks increased significantly this Christmas season but so did the generosity of the community say food bank coordinators.

"The amount of food and gifts that was brought in was just unbelievable," said Joan Waldie, coordinator of the Acton Food Share located on the Beardmore property. "I was really touched."

So were the hundreds of people who needed the food she said.

"We put as much food out in one day this December as we did in a whole month last year," she said.

She found there was a significant

rise in people using the food bank for the first time this December.

The generosity and numbers of people who needed help was no less significant in Georgetown.

"The donations were marvellous," said Laura Ellison, coordinator of the Love in Christ Food Bank at Mountainview Baptist Church in Georgetown. "This is a very giving community."

She's thankful the donations were up because so were the numbers of people making use of the service.

"We had lots more people coming in this year than last year," she said.

But both food banks managed to provide every needy person with enough food for Christmas. Love in Christ has enough food left over to provide meals for needy families until February.

A couple of success stories came out of this year's Christmas food drive as well. In Acton, a man brought in 12 turkeys which was his way of saying thank-you to the food bank because he had made use of its services the year before. Another man brought in bags of toys saying her couldn't have survived the year before if it wasn't for the food bank.

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