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VOLUME 2, ISSUE 9

"A RURAL PAPER TO CALL OUR OWN"

NOVEMBER 26, 1999

Cream of the Crop

Kerri Alexander wins '99 Chapman Scholarship

BY GLENDA BENTON
THE COMPASS

She's been an ambassador, a youth leader, actively involved in her community, and now Kerri Alexander of Norval is the 1999 winner of the Dr. Ethel Chapman Scholarship.

Dr. Ethel Chapman grew up on a Halton County Farm near Campbellville. When she was very young she wrote for various church papers and for the Toronto Globe. She became interested in agricultural extension work when she saw an itinerant home economist working with rural women. Her long career of creative service allowed her to combine her talents as a writer with her dedication to rural extension work. Educated at the Macdonald Institute in Guelph, Dr. Chapman joined the field staff of the Women's Institutes Branch of the Home Economics Service of the Ontario Department of Agriculture.

Dr. Chapman's career alternated between journalism and extension work. For several years she was with the Maclean Publishing company, working on the *Farmer's Magazine* and on *Macleans*. She was Assistant Superintendent of the Women's Institutes Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture for five years and then became the editor of the *Farmer's* magazine. She later was with the Home Economics Extension Service and she became the editor of the *Home & Country*, the magazine for the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario.

Dr. Chapman was a true

friend to women's institute members. Her guidance, thoughtfulness and charm will long be remembered by the membership. Asked shortly before her death in 1976 what in her rich and accomplished life had she prized the most, she answered without hesitation, "The many friends I have made."

Dr. Chapman was the author of three novels *God's Green Country*, *The Homesteaders* and *With Flame of Freedom* - as well as a number of serials, short stories and articles for Sunday School papers and magazines.

From a Roadside Window is a collection of 81 stories. These sketches first appeared in a regular column in the *Farmer's Advocate* and they might never have found their way into a book if the Women's Institutes of Ontario had not felt a concern to save them for further reading. Being a Halton native, the Halton District Women's Institute felt Dr. Chapman deserved special recognition in Women's Institute circles.

In 1970 the Halton District Women's Institute honoured her in a permanent way by establishing the scholarship.

The initial award was presented to Cathy Lasby in 1971, the 70th anniversary of the Halton District W.I. Dr. Chapman attended District Day and personally presented Cathy with the first scholarship. Each year the Halton District W.I. presents the \$300 scholarship to a current 4-H member, a graduate of secondary

school who has completed six or more lifestyle 4-H projects, or a past member who has completed 12 4-H projects and is furthering his or her post secondary education and is a resident of Halton or is a 4-H member in Halton.

Kerri Alexander has completed 21 4-H projects, was a youth leader in 1997 for the Power of Produce, attended leadership camps, and has been actively involved in her community and school. Extra curricular activities at school included band, badminton, volleyball, peer mentor programme, peer assistant learning programme and the yearbook committee.

Miss Alexander was selected Fair Ambassador for the Georgetown Agricultural Society in 1997, is a provincial director for Halton Junior Farmers, and has served her church on the worship and music committee and played piano for Sunday School.

Kerri completed her O.A.C. at Georgetown District High School with a high academic standing and is currently attending the University of Guelph in the degree programme of Agricultural Business.

Halton District President Marion McPhail sends congratulations to Kerri and encourages more 4-H members to apply for this scholarship and the Halton W.I. Bursary as well.

Applications can be obtained from the OMAFRA office in Georgetown or by contacting Jane Baynton, district scholarship conveyer.

RURAL ROLE MODEL



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGETOWN AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Kerri Alexander, pictured after winning the Georgetown Fall Fair Ambassador Competition, is the 1999 winner of the Dr. Ethel Chapman Scholarship. The award has been presented annually by the Halton District Women's Institute to a Halton 4-H member that is a graduate of secondary school and who has completed six or more lifestyle 4-H projects, or a past member who has completed 12 4-H projects and is furthering his or her post secondary education.

Inside This Month's Compass

Community Cornerstone

Two Hillcrest Church members, Mary Wilson and Mary Au, knitted 19 teddies for Doctors Without Borders. They have been delivered to a Toronto contact who has 100 at her home, ready for shipment.

see page 5



Shoebbox Memories

John Whaley and wife Ann Wiggins farmed Lot 1 of Esquesing until their son Robert James bought it in 1885. Robert James and his wife Florence Johnston farmed and raised two daughters and five sons on this property.

see page 8



Milton authors

Alison Griffiths and David Cruise, two rural Milton authors, have just released their newest book, *Working the Land: Journeys into the Heart of Canada*, a current perspective with anecdotes by citizens all across our vast country.

see page 10



Business Feature

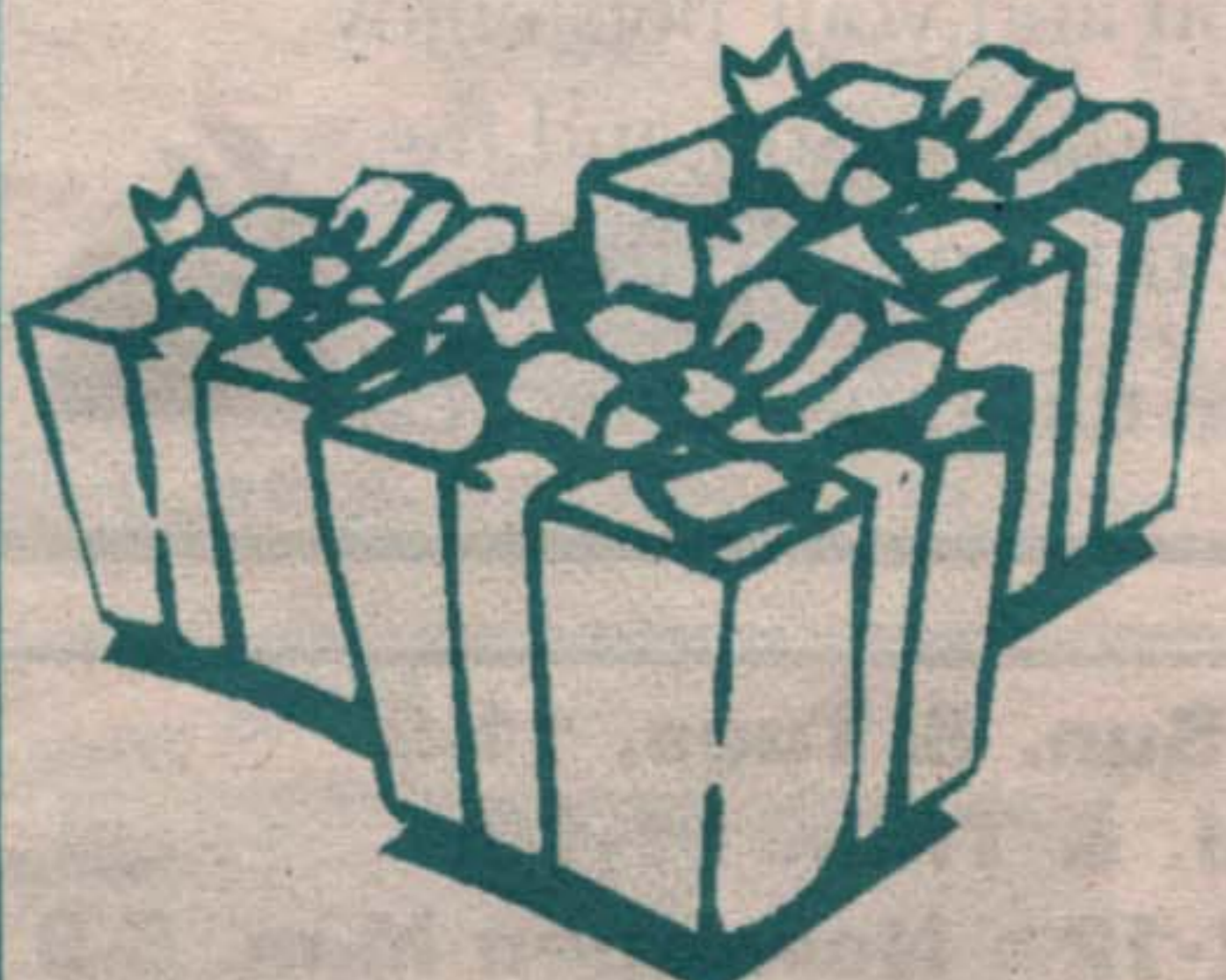
With Christmas just around the corner, many parents are looking for alternative children's presents, and Fiona Kennedy from Milton's Nature's Fire carries unusual, fun and educational gift items.

see page 16



Campbellville & Area Business Members

invite one & all to join us during our annual celebration



Christmas in Campbellville

Enjoy a weekend of
special events and the
village's warm hospitality
in our unique shops & eateries

December 4th and 5th

