

# How to freeze fresh asparagus

By Burke McNeill

The season for fresh Ontario asparagus is short, generally lasting about one month from mid-May to mid-June, say food specialists at the Ontario Food Council, Ministry of Agriculture and Food. Enjoy it fresh while it lasts and freeze some for later use.

Select only top quality asparagus for freezing. For tenderness, look for fresh firm stalks with close compact tips that are deep green or bluish green. Open tips indicate tough stalks or stalks held too long after cutting. Straight, medium to thick stalks are more tender than thin angular stalks or stalks with a large amount of white at the base.

Use asparagus quickly, while

freshness lasts. Prepare stalks for freezing in the same manner as for fresh use. Wash it well, and remove any loose scales. Break off the woody base (the stalk will snap where the tender part begins). Blanch in boiling water, three minutes for stalks of one-half inch or less in diameter, and four minutes for larger stalks. Cool under cold running water, drain, and freeze immediately in carefully sealed moisture-proof packages.

Asparagus is an excellent frozen vegetable. Thaw and use in a salad, or place frozen into a small amount of boiling salted water and cook covered for three to five minutes. This is about one-third the time required to cook fresh asparagus, so care is needed not to overcook.



THE JUNIOR AND SENIOR groups of the Horney 4-H Homemaking Club joined forces on Saturday to do their part in cleaning up country roads. Participating in Earth Day '72 were Donna Stewart on the truck cab, Lynne Stewart, Barbara LeRiche, Linda LeRiche, Annette Reid, Judy Chase, Tracy Thorpe and Barbara Brownridge. Instructors Mrs. J. McKay and Mrs. T. Bousfield assisted the girls.

(Photo by J. Jennings)

GERTRUDE BY TROGDON



## Travelog films shown

Thursday evening May 18 The Evening A. C. W. of St. George's Church met at the home of Mrs. Van Andrew for their May meeting. The meeting opened with the program from the Living Message, "Call to Worship." During the business session plans were made for catering to two functions in the near future. Mrs. Van Andrew showed travelog films on Rome and Milan with commentary. The meeting closed and lunch was served by the committee in charge.

On Tuesday May 23 a euchre was held in St. George's Church Hall under the auspices of the afternoon branch of the A.C.W. Prize winners were Joyce Fuller, Frank Peacock, Anna Thompson and Harry Richardson. The lucky draws were won by Mrs. Beaty, Mrs. Peacock and Mrs. Newman

## Find shady spot for your begonias

By Burke McNeill

Although it's too late to start your own tuberous begonias this year, shoppers will have a variety of colors and shapes to choose from at their local garden centre or greenhouse.

One of the most attractive flowering plants that grows well in shade, tuberous begonias like a rich, well-drained soil. They can take sun part of the day, but indirect light suits them best.

When they are brought home from the greenhouse, plant them soil and all, at the same depth they were in the pot. Don't plant them too deep because the stem may rot if they should get too wet. Make sure the leaves always point to the front of the bed. This way you will be sure to have the blooms facing the front.

Tuberous begonias like the soil moist but not soggy. They also benefit from a monthly feeding of fertilizer.

## 4-H leaders

### Finalize plans summer program

By Hugh Cook

At a recent meeting of the Halton 4-H Club Leaders' Council, plans for the 4-H program for the summer months were finalized.

The county livestock judging competition will be held on Wednesday, Aug. 2 in the Acton area. This competition involves our 4-H members, Junior Farmers, and any other young people who are interested. Trophies are awarded for the top scoring competitors who judged sheep, swine, beef and dairy cattle or horses.

The Halton County Seed Judging Competition will be held on Monday, July 31. This competition is also open to the same above mentioned group of people. Trophies will be awarded for the judging of various field crops, cash crops and forage.

The invitation to visit Halton

County has been accepted by the Kiwanis Club of the Kingsway. These Kiwanians will be visiting farms in the county on Sunday, June 25. It is anticipated there will be approximately 20 families in the visiting group. 4-H Club Leaders, members and parents of the members are encouraged to come out and meet the Kiwanians.

Ten 4-H Agricultural Club members will travel to Maryland on a 4-H exchange from July 22 to July 29 of this year. These members will be accompanied by two chaperones. They will be staying in the homes of 4-H members from the State of Maryland. The club leaders anticipate an active summer with attendance in the 4-H program being higher than it has for some years. There should be good attendance at most functions.

## Board explains plans for Bruce St. students

Claims by worried parents that students presently attending classes at Bruce St. Public School will have to walk to W. I. Dick Public School in the north part of town next year are unfounded, according to a letter Milton Council has received from the Halton County Board of Education.

The board will bus some students to Pineview School for opportunity classes, assistant director of education E. S. Lavender told council, but only about seven or eight students are involved. There are presently nine in opportunity classes at Bruce St. and when the school closes in June, one or two will graduate and attend Martin St. School while the rest will be transported to Pineview.

Grade five pupils now at Bruce St. will also go to Martin St. in the fall to enter grade six classes, he noted.

Parents had visited the May 1 meeting of Milton Council to express concern for student safety. Young students will either have to use the Pine St. bridge or cross a footbridge on Parkway Dr. to get to classes at J. M. Denyes School. Steep slopes lead to the stream at Parkway and the Pine St. bridge is narrow, Mrs. G. Willoughby told council.

Lavender admitted the Pine St. bridge is narrow and said either student patrols or traffic patrols would be worked out for periods when the students are using the bridge. The sides of the Parkway footbridge are being screened for the safety of students.

## Youngsters visit farm

The King farm at Lowville is a busy place these days, with four student outings bringing busloads of young school children to visit and tour the farm operated by Jack and Stu King.

A group from Strathcona School recently visited and this Friday another busload from Lakeshore school is planning a tour. More tours are planned early in June by students from Pauline Johnstone and Wellington Square Schools. All the schools are in Burlington's built-up southern area.

The King family usually drops the chores or field work for an hour or two when a yellow bus loaded with excited youngsters pulls up in the farmyard. They give tours of the barn and outbuildings, demonstrate milking and feeding procedures, and usually end up with a hayride around the fields.

## Reformatory herd sold

Harold R. Patterson of Milton purchased a Holstein at the dispersal of the Ontario Reformatory herds, held May 19 at Brubacher Sale Arena in Guelph. These herds, an important source of breeding stock through the years, have set many fine production records. The 178 head sold for \$165,420 for an average of \$929.

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## Finalize staging agreement on Chaingate condominiums

Final details in an agreement between Milton Council and Chaingate Developments Ltd., developers of a proposed 254-unit condominium townhousing project on Bronte St. S., were threshed out Monday night at a meeting of council.

Chaingate has agreed to the town's requested program for staging the development. The agreement rules that only the first stage, 115 units south of Anne Blvd., can proceed this year and no development will be allowed on the remaining 139 units north and south of Heslop Rd. until after June 1, 1973.

Council is paying a share of the costs for a large sanitary sewer to drain runoff to the Sixteen Mile Creek, and the council was hesitant to allow Chaingate to build on its northerly lands until the southernmost properties are developed. The newest agreement splits development into two stages and assures council it will have capital levy funds from Chaingate for the first units, before having to spend money on sewers for the second group of townhouses.

Gives protection

"This will give the town some protection—the first stage would have to be reasonably successful before they could go ahead on the second stage," town solicitor D.

A. McConachie told councillors Monday. He suggested the agreement should be registered against the title of the land at the Halton Registry Office, and Chaingate solicitor George Ness agreed.

Ness told councillors there was no worry on his part that the project would go ahead as quickly as possible. "I would be happier if we had no staging," he said. "We are just besieged with proposals for purchases and development." The units could be built "as fast as the men could build them," he added.

"Polymer Corporation is very anxious to come in and build them for us," he announced. "We would be happier to go ahead and get them all built in one fell swoop."

Another hearing

Solicitor McConachie was asked to prepare an amending by-law, incorporating the new agreement with the developers, and have it ready for next Monday's council meeting. Chaingate's application will have to be recirculated to all the area rate-payers and go to another Ontario Municipal Board hearing, he noted, and "I don't know when that would be." (The last hearing on March 17 was adjourned when the town withdrew the application, after Chaingate refused to sign a new agreement

incorporating a change in the staging program.)

Several members of Falling-brooke Ratepayers Association, who are violently opposed to condominium townhouses on the Bronte St. lots, sat in on Monday's meeting. Invited to make comments by Mayor Brian Best, a spokesman said they were attending "only as observers."

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