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# Weekend Champion



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Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

## Loose ball

Bishop Reding Royal Bryan Kenny tries to get a hand on the loose football as a White Oaks defender closes in during Wednesday's game. The junior Royals went on to win 15-8. See story and another photo on page 21.

## Jail expansion is all bad news, opponents warn

By **STEVE LeBLANC**  
 Special to *The Champion*

Citing everything from job loss to potential violence, some area residents believe expansion at Maplehurst prison will ruin Milton.

Headed by correction officers Mike Foley and Bill Gillies, representatives from the community and penal system brought their concerns before town council Monday night.

Their intention was to gain council's support against the province's plan to turn the local correctional complex into a super-jail.

While their message was heard loudly and clearly, their overall aim fell short in a lengthy point-counterpart debate.

Mr. Foley's main beef with Maplehurst expansion is the number of local employees who'll lose their jobs in the province-wide consolidation.

"The bumping process will be done strictly by seniority, and most local

guards and employees are at the bottom of that list," said Mr. Foley, a Georgetown resident. He was one of six anti-expansion speakers.

"The loss of jobs will take millions of dollars out of the community with no new money going in, other than gasoline and the odd pack of cigarettes (purchased by prison visitors)."

Shouldering complaints throughout the night, Ward 2 Councillor John Challinor said early figures project an annual \$132,000 loss for the community as a result of the expansion.

Believing that prisoners and prison visitors can surely make up that difference, he claimed the super-jail plan "is not as bad as it's being painted."

Added Mr. Challinor, "Senior bumping rights were a requirement you put in your contract. If you went back to management, you might have the opportunity to change that."

• see **COUNCILLORS** on page 17

## Vibrant Legion thrives on community work

By **STEVE LeBLANC**  
 Special to *The Champion*

To protect old ideals, one must often adopt new ones. While perhaps not fully appreciated by many, this concept has certainly been embraced by Milton's Royal Canadian Legion. And with tremendous results.

At a time when nationwide membership has plummeted, the Charles Street branch has enjoyed substantial growth.

"Our enrolment is now at 628, which is more than double what it was just 10 to 12 years ago," said longtime member Sharon McKeown, who took over as branch president this past summer.

"This certainly goes against the nationwide trend of decreased enrollment."

In the wake of Legion Week, September 22 to 28, Ms McKeown contends the local branch's willingness to change is what's kept it afloat — and made it a vibrant part of the community.

"It wasn't that long ago that the Legion was strictly for veterans, but now it's open to their family, police officers and even the public through sponsored membership.

"A lot of branches really haven't embraced this policy, but Milton has. They've attracted new members and been able to survive because

• see **VETERANS'** on page 5



Photo by STEVE LeBLANC

Royal Canadian Legion branch 136 president Sharon McKeown shows off the organization's Remembrance Hall, which is filled with interesting war memorabilia.

### NEWSLINES

#### Museum exhibit

The federal government's Rural Exhibits Program opens at the Farm Museum (formerly the Agricultural Museum) today.

The three-day event shows rural dwellers how to access 120 government-sponsored programs and services that can benefit them economically.

Young rural Canadians are crewing the exhibits. The event continues Saturday and Sunday.

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