

Estate sale at historical property

By Robin Downton-Poirier
SPECIAL TO THE CHAMPION

This weekend residents will have the chance to purchase from a large variety of antiques and pottery at an estate sale being held at an historical property on Guelph Line just south of Milton.

Richard and Helen Sovereign, owners of Sovereign Grain Farms, will sell many of their family antiques and collectibles as they prepare to sell their farm and purchase a smaller property.

"My husband will be retiring from farming and we are in the process of selling the property," said Helen. "We need to downsize and, in order to do

that, we decided to sell a lot of our things."

The Sovereign property, at 6449 Guelph Line, will be featured in the 2007 Lowville Community Calendar due to its historical significance.

Built in 1847 by William and Hannah McKay, it was the first brick home erected in Nelson Township north of Dundas Highway. The property was sold to John Richardson, a long-standing member of the Nelson township council, in 1897.

Richardson farmed the property for many years until his death when his son-in-law, Leonard Coulson, took over. Coulson farmed the property for 18 years until it was sold in 1965 to the Sovereigns. It has since been the

home of two businesses, Sovereign Grain Farms and 1847 Farmhouse Pottery.

"We've had Sovereign Grain Farms here and I used to have 1847 Farmhouse Pottery here as well, though I haven't made pottery for 14 years," said Sovereign.

The Sovereigns have advertised the sale in antique magazines as well as the local newspapers and are expecting good turnout, she said.

Inclement weather won't be an issue since the sale will be held in a large barn on the property.

The sale will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

To inquire about the sale, call (905) 335-9506.

Aboriginal heritage celebrated at park

Crawford Lake Conservation Area is inviting families to celebrate Canada's aboriginal heritage Sunday.

The park will hold its National Aboriginal Day Festival from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., which will include many activities and guest presenters in honour of First Nations culture.

Visitors can explore the reconstructed Iroquoian Village, with its authentic longhouses, and listen to fascinating presentations.

One of Crawford Lake's favourite guest presenters, Chief Top Leaf (Albert McArdle) will share about the traditions and stories of Ontario's Iroquoian people.

On a guided hike around Crawford Lake, guests will be able to learn about the contributions of the First Nations people.

Kids of all ages can participate in traditional games, crafts and storytelling sessions in the village, and afterwards enjoy a cup of nature's tea. In the Gathering Place, kids can participate in a discovery hunt.

Hungry guests can pick up a hot dog at the barbecue.

Admission to this event is \$6 per person, and free for kids four years old and younger. Crawford Lake is located on the corner of Steeles Avenue and Guelph Line, five kilometres south of Hwy. 401.

For more information, call (905) 854-0234 or visit www.conservationhalton.on.ca.

Kelso safe for swimming

Kelso Conservation Area's first beach water test of the season has deemed it safe for swimming.

The sample, taken last week by the Halton Region Health Department, showed an acceptable bacteria level present in the water.

The health department tests recreational waters throughout the region for bacteria each week during the summer. Beaches are selected based on their use for swimming and other water sports.

During the coming months, residents can call the Region to find out what beaches have been closed due to poor water quality. This information is available 24 hours a day at (905) 825-6000.

Those who call during regular business hours should ask for beach information and after hours should press 2. The details are also posted on the Region's Web site at www.halton.ca/health.

Information is updated weekly or as conditions change.

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