

# New main street, new businesses, new council highlight 1976 for Elmvale

The past year in the village of Elmvale saw one very noticeable change. That being the new main street.

The area residents had to put up with a few weeks of utter chaos only to be rewarded with a beautiful and well organized Queen Street complete with new water mains, sewers, sidewalks and street lights.

This was not the only sign of progress for Elmvale. Simcoe Street also received a new top,

and storm sewers were installed on Stone Street. Several old street lights were replaced throughout the village.

Merchants on the main street were caught up in the enthusiasm and began fixing up their store fronts.

Brown's Red and White sandblasted the old paint off of the brick at the top of their store, and repainted the trim. They also installed a new Brown's Foodmaster sign. Shaw's Interiors put

a fresh coat of paint on the front of their store and stuccoed the bottom half.

A few new businesses opened up, such as a new restaurant the Olympic Flame. This restaurant installed two new neon signs and has just recently been granted a license to serve beer and wine with their meals.

The Elmvale Bazaar changed their location from the store in the alley behind the bake shop to the Fitzgerald building on Queen Street. It's

Fashions, specializing in sportswear for men and women opened up in the previous location of the Elmvale Bazaar after extensive renovations.

Reynolds Restaurant in the west end of the village underwent some changes and re-opened as Murry's Fish and Chips, with a complete menu for take-out as well as served meals.

Campbell's Crest Hardware changed ownership during the year from brothers Bill

and Ed Campbell to Bill's son Dave and his wife Margie.

The Palace Hotel was purchased by Pete and Bev Steele from the previous owners Ted and Shirley White.

Mr. and Mrs. Willson Allonby took over the operation of Becker's Milk Store on Queen Street, Elmvale, when Mrs. Stan Janes gave up the business.

A bigger and better than ever Fall Fair was held in Elmvale. The

Flos-Elmvale Memorial Arena which suffered extensive damage from a fire was not ready at fair time in 1975, but for the 1976 fair the newly renovated building was in full operation. The displays for this fair were too numerous to mention, and it was termed the best fair yet by members of the fair board.

Last year was also election year, and three members of the previous council announced their resignation. Alex Currie a

council veteran of 13 years, along with Bob Thiffault and Fred Harpell were replaced in the elections by Marion Baker, Bill Player and Don Hocken.

Councillor Earl (Bud) Vollick was reelected to his third term of office. Elmvale Reeve Ken Knox was re-acclaimed to the reeve's position.

Elmvale gained a much needed third Doctor this past year. Dr. James Young moved with his family into Elmvale and opened his office on Stone

Street, just west of the post office.

Michelle Simpson brought fame and glory to the village, when she won the bronze medal in the ladies Canadian Figure Championship, Novice Division in Calgary.

Not to be outdone for Championships, were the Elmvale Peewee A team. They brought home to Elmvale the North American Silver Stick Championship for their division, won in Port Huron, Michigan.

Service clubs in the village have not been idle the past year. The Elmvale and District Lions Club built two tennis courts for the village and these will be ready for use this summer. They also contributed to the reconstruction of the arena including new kitchen facilities.

The Elmvale Community Hall just recently received an updating. The walls have been repanelled, ceiling

lowered, floor sanded, new drapes for the stage and a new lighting system. A completely new bar was also built in the hall. The cost of this work will be partially paid from a Wintario grant. The Lions Club has contributed \$1,000 to help with the balance not covered by the grant.

In looking back over the past year in Elmvale, progress is definitely the right word. The village and its residents have accomplished much.



Queen St. torn up

The rebuilding of Queen Street, Elmvale's main street began in April of last year. The street was completely torn up back to the front door of the stores on

this street. Watermain, storm sewers, street lights, sidewalks and road surface, were all replaced to provide a modern and attractive main street.

## Knox hopes to keep taxes down

In a recent interview, Elmvale Reeve Ken Knox stated he was proud of the village's new main street. He credited the success of the project to good weather conditions and to the hard working and conscientious contractor who handled the job.

"We are hoping for the same type of conditions and similar workmen for the highway 27 project,"

commented Knox.

As councillor for the Village of Elmvale for nine years, and reeve for the past five years, Knox felt the new council while very capable members, will need at least a year to mature and familiarize themselves with the job. He felt because of his experiences as reeve and past councillor, that they would be looking to

himself and to councillor Vollick who is the only other veteran, for guidance.

Reeve Knox expressed pride in the office staff, for their handling of the village's business. Faye Townes is village clerk, and Pat Thurlow is deputy clerk.

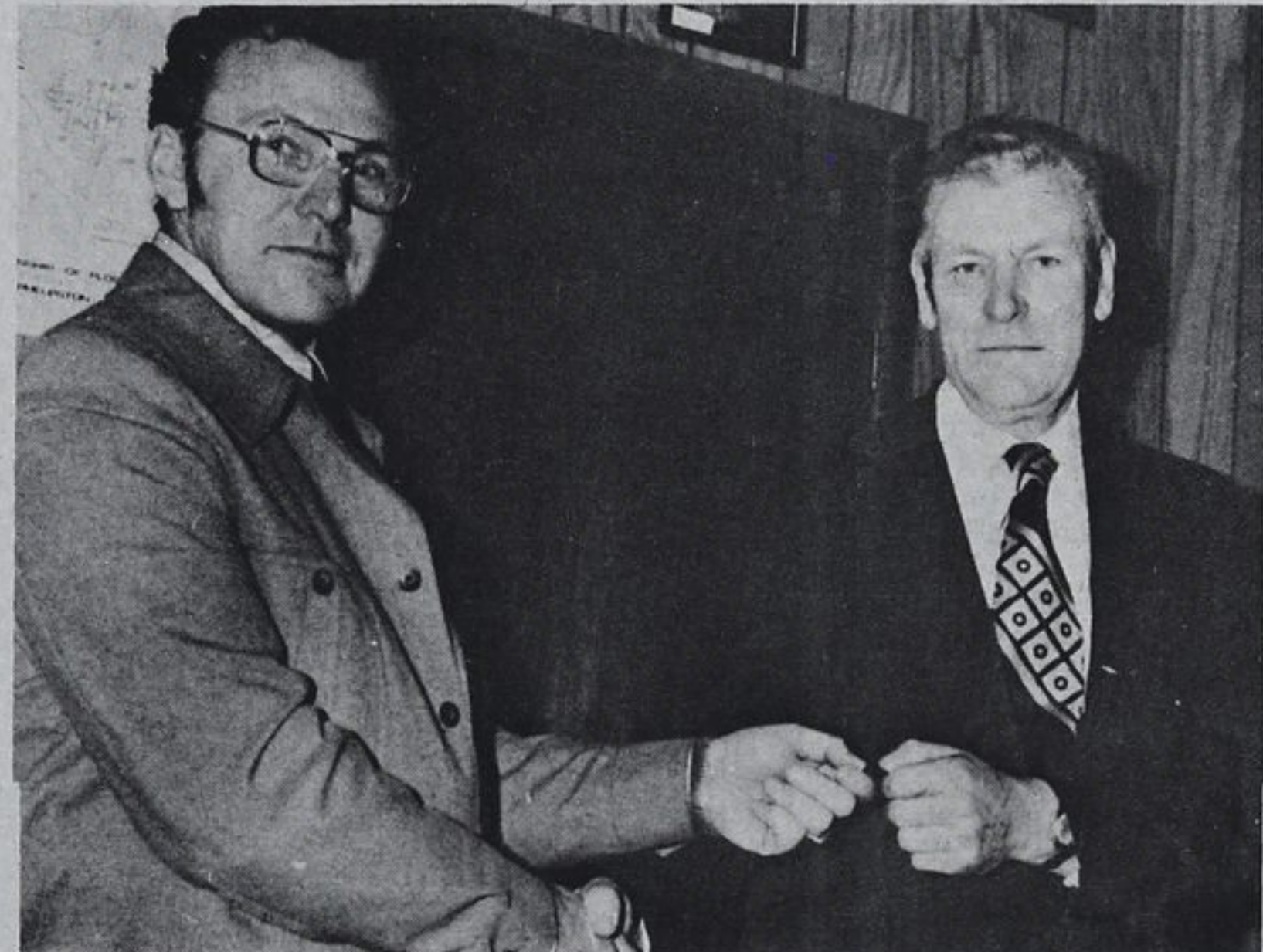
I also feel the public works department do an excellent job in this

village. They have just come through a difficult winter and were able to keep the streets of Elmvale well sanded and clear of snow. Councillor Don Hocken is chairman of Public Works, and Jim Vollick is foreman. "Both men and their employees are to be congratulated," said Knox.

Not to be forgotten from the reeve's acknowledgements, was the Flos-Elmvale library. "I feel this village and the residents of Flos can be very proud of their library," Knox pointed out. "We have an efficient librarian, Mrs. Lois Lyons, and the literary material is very up to date," he said.

In looking ahead Knox noted the projects now before council. The paving of the parking lots, and the paving of the business lane north of Queen Street are only two of the many plans now being considered. Council would also like to complete the installation of storm sewers on Stone Street, and are hoping to build a new public works building on the property purchased by the village in 1975 for this purpose.

"Our main objective is to keep taxes at a minimum," stated Knox without sacrificing services or issuing any future debt to the Village of Elmvale," he said.



New reeve

Former Flos Township Reeve Don MacDonald passed over the key of office to the newly elected Reeve Alex Findlay, after MacDonald was defeated

in a tight race with Findlay in last year's elections. Findlay had been a member of Flos council and deputy-reeve before moving up to the position of Reeve.

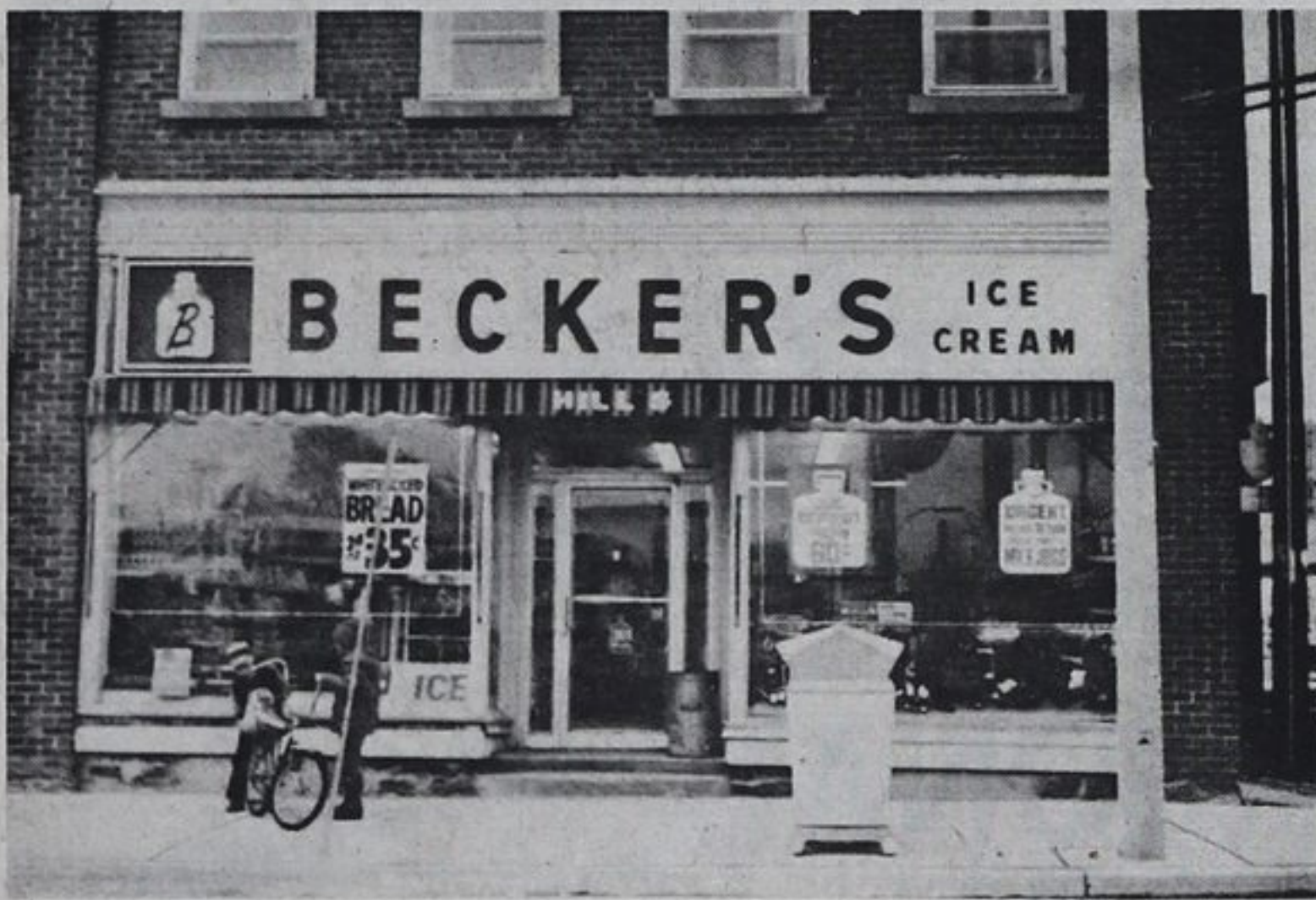


Queen St. repaved

The rolling out of the final surface of the main street of Elmvale came in the latter part of June last year, bringing to an end the rebuilding of Queen in only

three short months. It's difficult to believe the amount of work that was accomplished in such a short time. Staff photo

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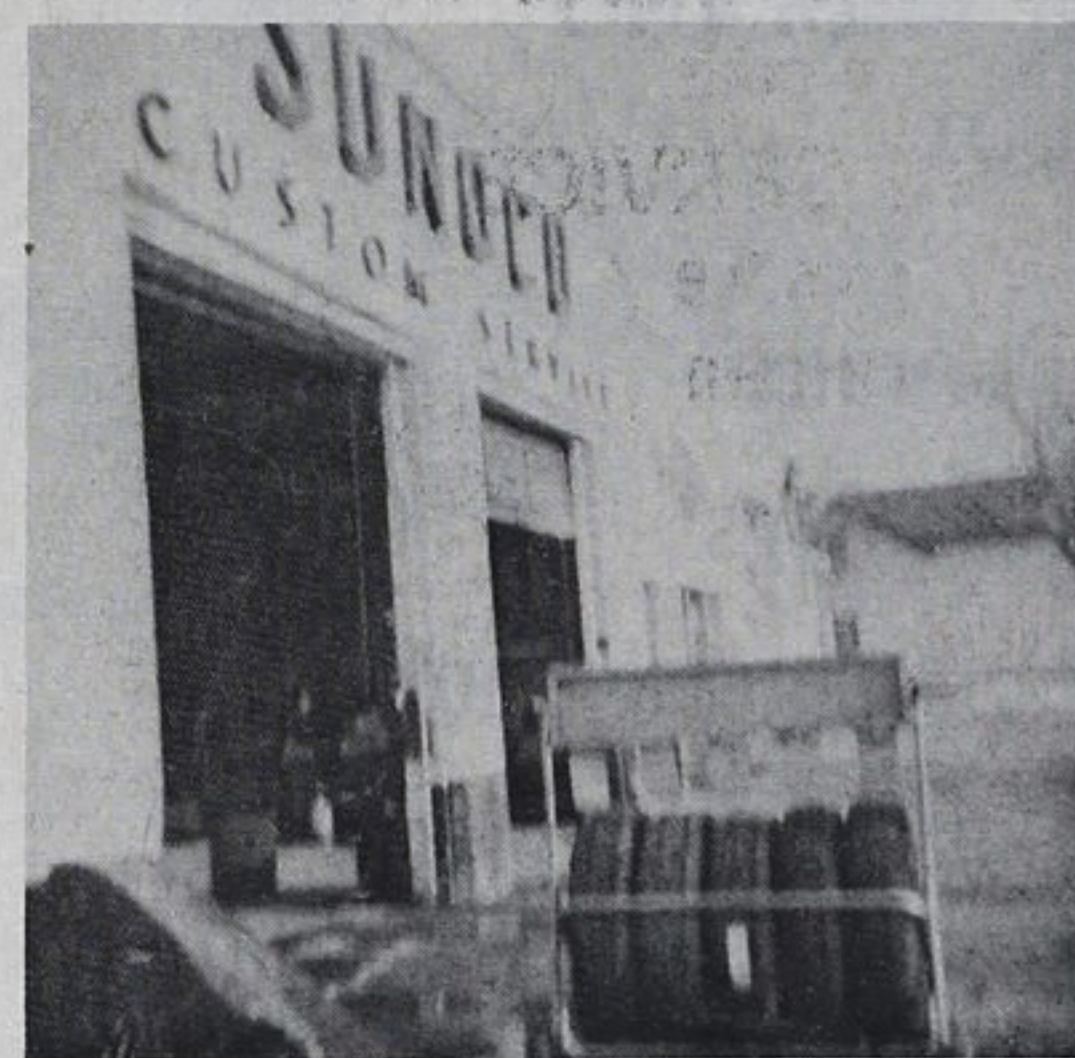
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