

# Agriculture Update

## Bright grads work for environment

They're young. They're articulate. They've got degrees in agriculture, geography, science and English.

And they've spent the past few months working to improve Ontario's environment in a variety of ways. They are participants in Environmental Youth Corps, a program administered in part by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

The ministry is co-ordinating nine projects employing 37 young people.

Project suggestions came from several organizations including the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association, the University of Guelph's department of environmental biology, the Rural Learning Association of Ontario, the Jubilee Foundation for Agricultural Research and the Association of Peel People Evaluating Agricultural Land.

The Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association's project encourages farmers to adopt conservation practices to improve food production, soil resources and water quality.

Students help field inspectors inspect crops, conduct surveys and verify conservation practices.

Luciana Faienza, 23, has been

researching and writing for a Rural Learning Association project.

Groups of students were cleaning up in the Ridgetown area and encouraging local citizens to begin recycling and reduce land-filling.

Faienza has been doing publicity for these activities, so local residents would know exactly what the students were doing and what they hoped to achieve. She developed the well-water survey and a poll asking for opinions on recycling, conducted at a local fair.

Before she went to work for the EYC, Faienza said she was "con-

cerned" about the environment, but did not feel personally involved. But that's changed.

"I've changed my way of doing things. All the material used in our house is recycled now," she said.

Elaine Mallory has been collecting insects. The 23-year old, who has an undergraduate degree in biology from Queen's University, has been collecting and identifying insects from Washington Creek near Woodstock.

This is part of a project studying rehabilitation of streams draining agricultural areas, started several

years ago by the University of Guelph's environmental biology department. Nearly 10,000 trees — poplar clones — were painted on the banks of the creek.

The data Mallory collected will

help to determine whether the trees are causing changes in water temperatures and organic matter. It is hoped that in the long range, the stream will be rehabilitated and become suitable for trout.

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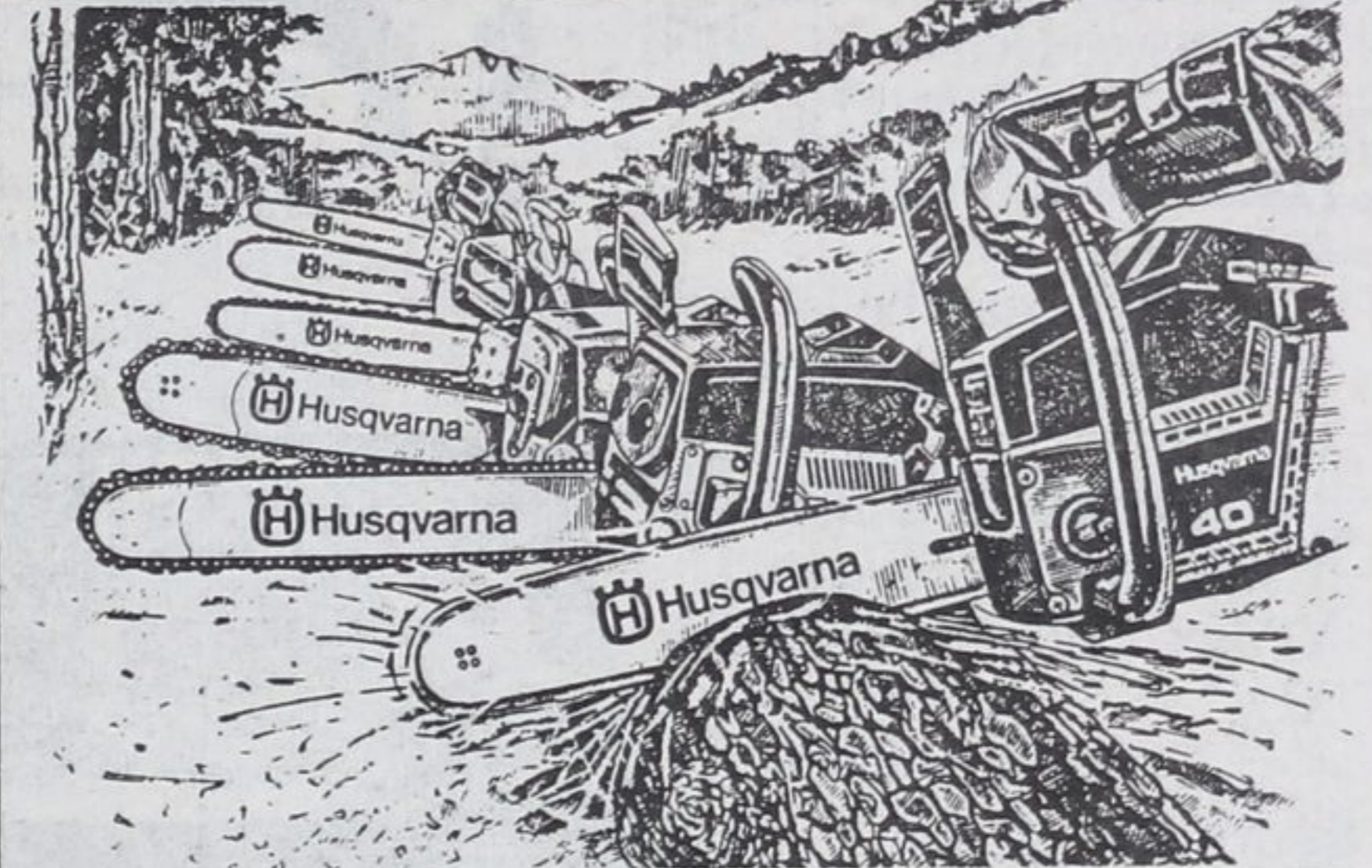
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## Motto prompts humorous story

by Winnifred Reynolds  
Public Relations Officer

The September Pine Ridge Women's Institute meeting was held Sept. 15 at the home of Mary Tunstead. It was opened with the Ode and the Mary Stewart collect.

Sixteen members answered the roll call: "Tell about a new product on the market which you have used."

After reading the motto, "Children are a great comfort in your old age — and they help you to reach it faster," the president told a humorous story about a man with 11 children.

The minutes were read and approved. The financial statement followed. The communications report dealt with programs at the county museum and area convention at Central United Church in Barrie Oct. 12. There will be a noon dinner and no night meeting.

The Sara Vista nursing home is having a volunteer appreciation tea Oct. 13. There was a newsletter concerning the fall 4-H program and Bev Leonard, a 4-H leader, explained the upcoming meat project which 11 girls are taking. She also mentioned that the girls were putting a display on their spring project in both Midland and Elmvale fall fairs. A motion to give financial support to this 4-H group's expenses was passed.

It was decided that the WI would not put on a display at Elmvale Fall Fair but instead would make a donation to the fair board.

Grace Marcellus of the Dorcas Greer scholarship committee reported that there will be more information about the presentation to a deserving girl at a later meeting.

The program period was used for an auction sale which proved to be productive as well as humorous. The president closed the meeting with a short reading, a delicious lunch was served by the hostess and President Norah Youngs.

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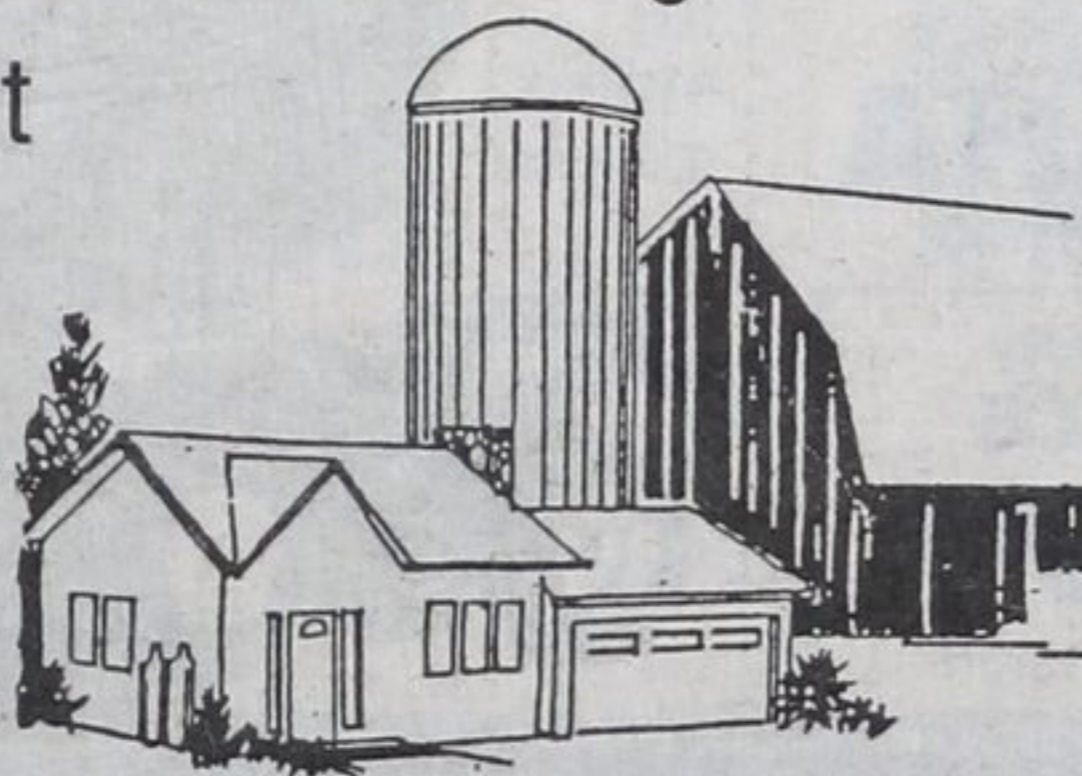
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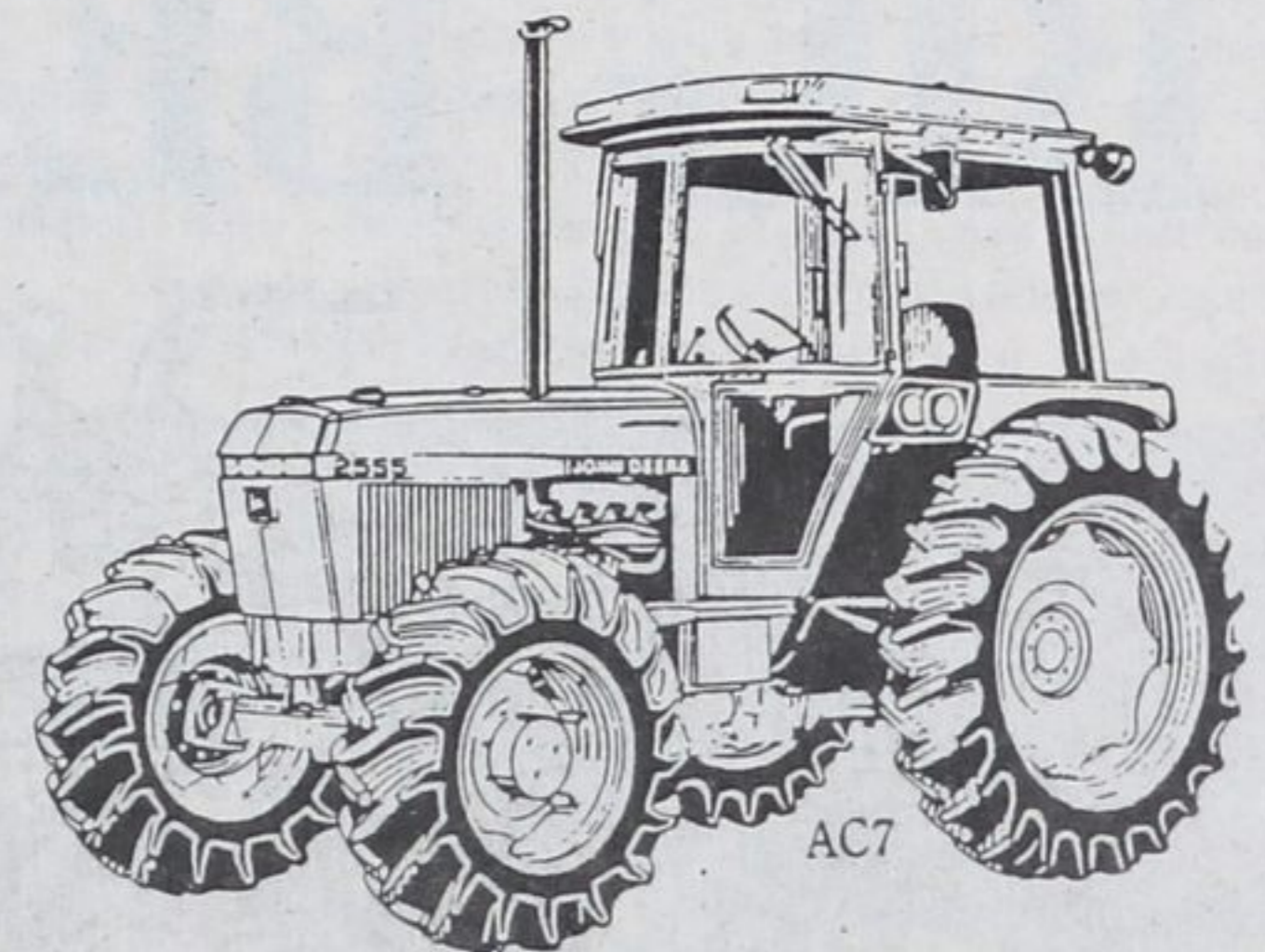
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