

The aftermath Family still shocked by lightning fire

Elsa Clarkin wasn't too concerned as she watched the approaching black cloud. There was no rain yet, but it would no doubt be a normal storm.

Suddenly, there was a stupendous crash as lightning struck the home. Her two youngsters who had been sleeping began to cry.

At this point, on May 7, she was not really certain that her Russell home had been struck.

"Everything looked normal" she said, "there was no smoke, but the tar paper on the roof seemed to be ripped off in spots

and was floating to the ground."

When she went back into her home, the smoke detector was ringing shrilly; she decided it was best to contact the fire department.

The children were brought to the safety of a neighbour's home while the group waited for the Russell Fire Department.

"They were fabulous" says Mrs. Clarkin, "it didn't take them more than ten minutes to arrive. They probably would have come even sooner, but I had so many

things on my mind, my directions may have been a bit muddled. They had a hard time finding my home."

Mrs. Clarkin, was equally effusive in praising her neighbours for their overwhelming display of kindness. "When the fire department arrived, the upper part of the house was engulfed in flames, people were swarming all over the place getting our furniture out of the burning structure."

When the blaze had been contained, the damage to the Clarkin's home was estimated at \$5,000, the master bedroom was completely gutted, the children's rooms were severely smoke-damaged and the Clarkin couple had lost all their clothing.

"That was a real nuisance," says Mrs. Clarkin "We had virtually nothing to wear, but in no time at all our neighbours were bringing clothing for George and me. People we didn't even know were offering to help. Women came and took bundles of the children's smoky clothing to be washed, it was really remarkable."

Luckily, the Clarkins were insured so the main problem at this point is the inconvenience of being cramped into a smaller living space. The couple has hired a contractor, so things will be back to normal in no time.

The Clarkins aren't taking any chances though for the future. They've invested about six hundred dollars in lightning rods to be placed all around the roof edge. These copper cables absorb the electrical force if the house should ever be hit again.

Block Parents

Russell Block Parents enjoyed an interesting and informative evening with Constable Barre of Casselman O.P.P., May 29.

Constable Barre praised the programme for its success and influence on the community. The Block Parent Committee expressed its appreciation for the annual grant from township council which covers the cost of operation.

Ample time was allotted to discuss concerns anyone might have. Subjects ranged from drugs to stop signs, bicycles to Project Identification.

Another meeting is scheduled for early fall. We hope to see you there. Information: Shirley — 445-5478; Rosalie — 445-5711.

Castor Chatter



Speed limit signs at Embrun and Russell Village will probably be moved to the edge of the built-up areas. Development has gone beyond the 50 km/h signs and drivers are not required to slow down until they've passed several homes. Township council feels the situation is potentially dangerous.

Then there was the one about the whole section of Russell Village that disappeared. Well, it didn't really disappear. Village residents knew it was there but the township planning board didn't because it was omitted from the master plan drawn up several years ago. The strip of land, between the Castor River and Church Street, will be included in the updated plan.

Kenmore's refugee family is settling in nicely, says Baptist Church Rev. Jim Paul, who has picked up a few words of Chinese while chaperoning the three women around the area. Not only are Ha A Muoi and daughters Diep Sao Linh and Diep Sao Kenh learning English at a rapid rate but they're now thinking of Kenmore as home, the reverend relates. By shopping around, the Vietnamese refugees have been able to find many of the foods they were used to in their native land, a factor which is helping them through the transition period.

Country music fests coming

Castor area residents will have their summer brightened by two local music festivals.

The Russell Old-Time Music Association is sponsoring a jamboree on the grounds of the Russell Community Centre June 14 to promote "old times and a friendly tone."

Hugh Latimer, one of the organizers, says it is an open dance for members, guests and friends of the association. The first jam session will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. with the second beginning at 8 p.m. and finishing up at 1 a.m.

Bands scheduled to play are the Ottawa Old-Time Fiddlers, the East Osgoode Old-Time Fiddlers, and of course, the Russell Old-Time Music Makers. If more information is needed, call Hugh Latimer 445-2007, or Bert Acres, 725-2212.

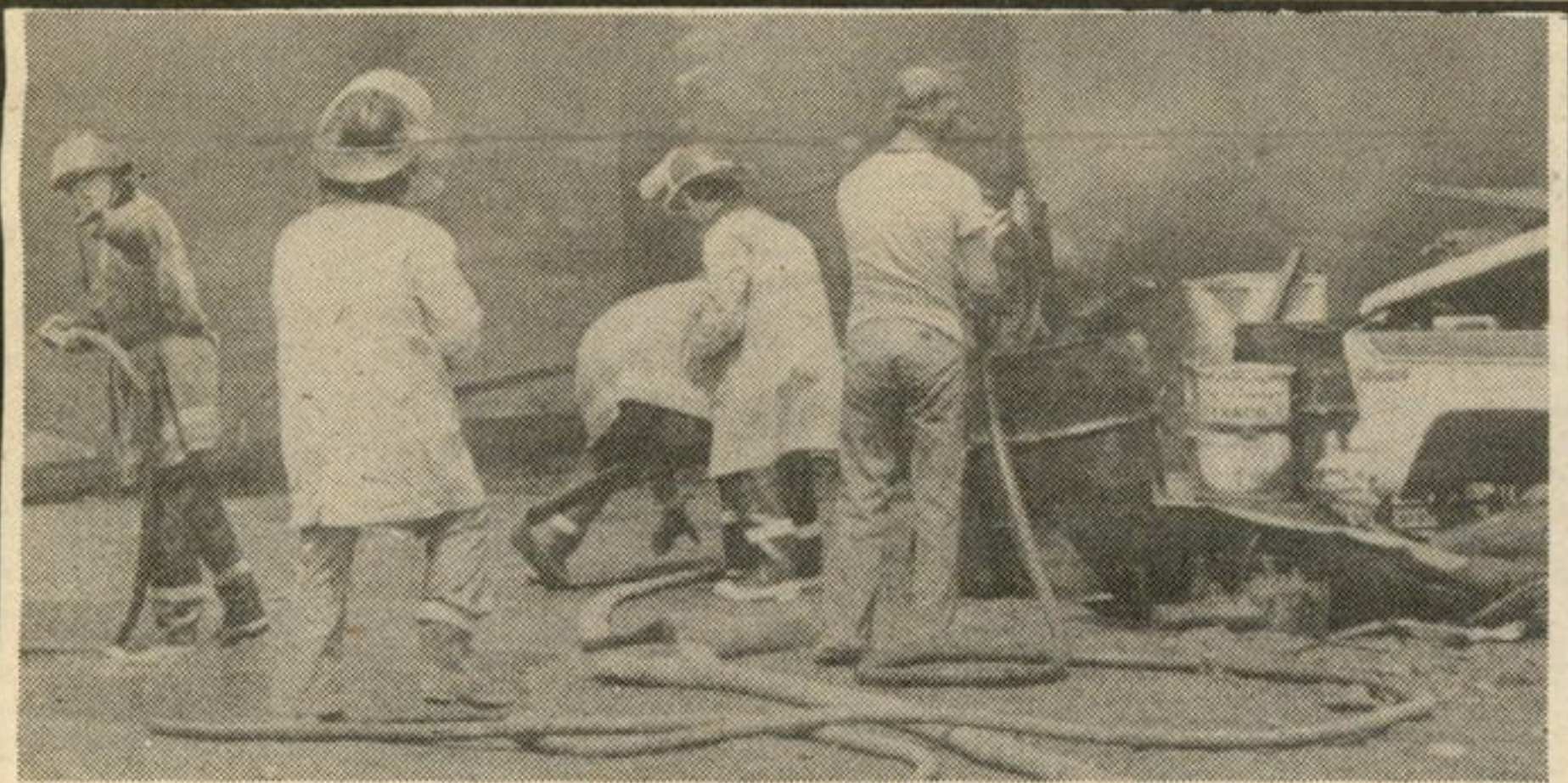
The second attraction is a three-day Bluegrass Festival being held July 18, 19, 20 on the Carruthers' farm on the boundary road between Winchester and Russell townships. Starting time is 7:30 p.m., Friday the 18th.

The Carruthers clan of Morewood is organizing the festival which offers a total of nine bluegrass bands including the Diamond Back Rattlers, White Birch, Lorne Buck and Bluegrass Jam and the Yankee Strings. A Gospel Hour at 11 a.m. Sunday will feature the Proverbs.

Admission for the weekend is \$13.00 with other price arrangements for those not planning to stay the whole weekend.

Children under 14 years of age will be admitted free if accompanied by their parents. Ample camping space will be available for those wishing to remain overnight.

For more directions and information call Jean Walker at 448-2680 or Stewart Carruthers at 448-2267.



TOTAL DESTRUCTION

Osgoode Township fire fighters had their hands full June 4 tackling a persistent blaze that destroyed the Spinak Auto Wreckers garage in Greely. Several cars belonging to customers burned in the blaze which will complicate the estimate. The fire apparently started when a mechanic accidentally ignited spilled gasoline. (Michael Van Dusen Photo)

Repaving set for north Road

Crushed stone is being laid for a new roadbed on the Boundary Road north of Russell.

But whether the paving is completed this summer depends on the county budget.

Lucien Millaire, Russell Township roads superintendent said a coat of temporary paving last summer is beginning to come apart and that stretch will definitely be repaved as far as the long curve.

"What happens after that, depends on the county. I believe they will pave if the money holds out."

Mr. Millaire's plans call for new sidewalks in Russell. However he hasn't got the money to complete the street paving on Concession Road between Castor and Mill streets.

Mr. Millaire said that his budget will not permit asphalt paving to the curbs this year.

Russell will get about \$60,000 worth of new sidewalks where warranted, but people stepping off the sidewalk from Castor down to the bridge, will be stepping on loose gravel in a cloud of dust.

Since the area concentrates some of the major business establishments, such as Ted Lehoska's hardware, Ewart Campbell's appliances, an antique shop and Benny's Hotel, with Tyo's Red and White just around the corner, the traffic problem is considerable.

RUSSTAAL DRAINAGE

OPEN TRENCH TILING

FOR FREE ESTIMATES CALL

Harold Staal — 445-2097

CASTOR CUPBOARDS

These recipes are provided by Micheline Pygas of Russell. It was handed along to her by her grandmother.

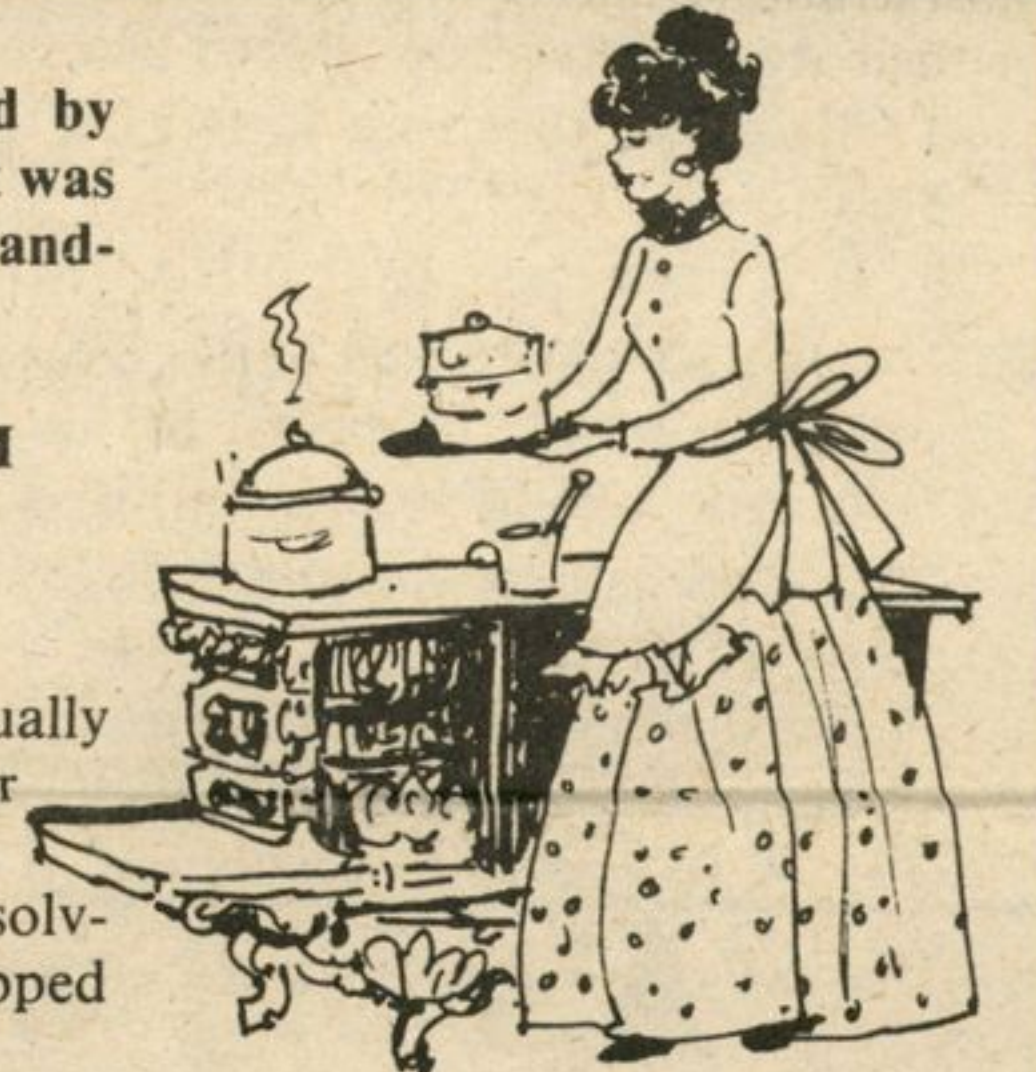
OLD-TIME ICE CREAM

Beat until foamy
2 egg whites
1 pinch of salt
Continue to beat while gradually adding 1/4 cup of white sugar
1 tsp. of vanilla
When sugar is completely dissolved add 1 cup of lightly whipped cream
Place in refrigerator for 1 hour then beat until smooth and place in freezer.

OLD-FASHIONED CRETONS

1 lb. minced pork, more fat than lean
1 cup dry bread crumbs
1 onion, grated
Salt, pepper
ground cloves to taste (or approx. 1/4 tsp.)
cinnamon, to taste
1 cup milk

Place all ingredients in a saucepan. Mix together, cover and cook over low heat for 1 hour. Stir once or twice during the cooking period. Empty into a bowl and refrigerate. Spread on crackers or toasts.



— IMPORTANT — RE—SANITARY SEWERS

DEADLINE FOR PRE-PAID

PAYMENT IS

SEPTEMBER 15, 1980

PLEASE DO NOT OVERLOOK
THIS DEADLINE!

TOWNSHIP OF RUSSELL
MR. JEAN-GUY BOURDEAU, CLERK-ADMINISTRATOR
443-3066