

Family Festival plans strike responsive chord

By Brenda Stewart

It all started with the glimmer of an idea last summer and this year the Boundary Bluegrass and Country Festival is a reality.

Leanna Barrington of Eganville was the sister with the idea. Last summer she attended several music festivals, including those in Denby, Kingston, and a one day country festival called the Ompah Stomp. She decided the Carruthers family could produce a festival in the Morewood area and went about convincing her brothers and sisters it could be done.

They discussed it until last Christmas. Then, on the grounds they needed something different to go together and there was nothing like it in the area, the Carruthers Family Enterprise began.

The Carruthers family has lived in the area more than 100 years. Stewart Carruthers' farm is the family home, where all six children were brought up. Years before, it had been their grandfather's farm.

The entire family is involved in the undertaking, with Stewart, his sister, Jean Walker, and his wife Isabel, "carrying the ball at first," says Leanna.

"We are feeling our way as to just what we are able to provide," says Leanna, "but we have had a lot of encouragement from people who believe the festival will be good for the area. We are very pleased with the response."

According to Isabel Carruthers, a family from Morrisburg travelled to the farm one evening simply to inquire about camping arrangements at the festival. The family is encouraged by events like this and is providing a camping area to draw families to Morewood for the weekend.

Nine bands from the U.S., Kingston, Ottawa and Toronto are playing all weekend. Such names as Diamond Back Rattlers, White Birch, Lorne Buck and Bluegrass Jam, Yankee Strings and Bytown Bluegrass will be featured. The Proverbs, a group from Westport, near Kingston, will provide music for the Gospel Hour from 11 a.m. to 12 a.m. on Sunday.

Friends of the family, Marlene and Don Weegar, have been largely responsible for the program, since they are "bluegrass people".

Although the main emphasis is on music, some crafts are being displayed and souvenirs, such as T-shirts, will be sold.

A quilt, done in different shades of blue and called the Star of the Bluegrass, has been made by the family and will be raffled on Saturday evening. The pro-

ceeds will go to the Burn Unit at the Children's Hospital in Ottawa. An afghan made by Gladys Broom has been donated for the same purpose.

The Boundary Bluegrass and Country Festival is being held July 18 - 20 near the Carruthers farm on the boundary road between Winchester and Russell townships. Admission is \$13 for the weekend with children 14 and under admitted free. Other rates are available for parts of the weekend.

After choosing the date, came contacting bands, arranging food, souvenirs, publicity, parking lots, washroom facilities, electricity, building the stage and taking one last load of hay off the field. When asked if they would do it again, Isabel and Jean agreed: "We can tell you better in a month's time."

Along the river

with Dick Sherwood

The thunder pump

Walkers and canoeists may have heard the deep hollow "pump-er-lunk" repeated four or five times every few minutes from the marsh above the dam at Russell. The Bittern is back at his nesting ground for another year.

Nick-named "Thunder Pump" because the spring song sounds like someone pumping water with an old hand pump, the Bittern is a shy bird of marsh and creek, common enough but not often seen because of his excellent camouflage and motionless stance. I have often paddled my canoe within a few feet of one before his nerve broke and he rose flapping wildly over the reeds.

A word of caution to those who would disturb Mrs. Bittern on her nest. The Bittern is armed with a long sharp bill, like a heron and can thrust at a curious face with lightning speed and deadly accuracy.



Suzanne Schroeter's

Scrapbook

Bridge-o-mania

I've been bitten by the bridge bug. I will travel through rain and snow, sleet or drizzle to share a card table with three other dedicated bridge players.

It started last winter when I attended a night school course for bridge beginners somewhat nervously.

It wasn't easy learning the game, but having a husband who played well was a definite help. It got so that we'd discuss bid responses while driving to Ottawa to a movie or during dinner in a restaurant.

It takes years to master the complex strategies of bridge. During my struggle to memorize point count, responses to opening bids and lead card plays, I kept reminding myself that this was not going to be a quick process. As a rookie card player, I had much to learn from Larry McGuire during our 10-week course. Almost everything from dealing the cards

was new to me, and, while I'm still uncomfortable sorting 13 cards in my hand, I have come a long way.

My keener classmates continue to meet twice a week at various homes where we endeavor to put into practice the conventions and myriad rules associated with the game. You can identify any one of us by the tattered, dog-eared "cheatsheet" tucked on our lap. Without the Quick Guide to Bridge, we're lost.

I may never master the finesse, cross trump, or the grand slam, and I may for a long time cringe when I hear myself declare "doubled", but I'm having a lot of fun. I've met many novice and experienced players who love to play bridge, for hours!

Bridge players unite! In the fall we hope to expand our meetings to include other fun-loving bridge players or those who would like to learn the game. We'd like to meet you. Have a great summer. Pass.



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JULY 18, 19 & 20 BOUNDARY BLUEGRASS & COUNTRY FESTIVAL PROGRAM

FRIDAY

7:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.

SATURDAY

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

- Full Time Security
- St. John Ambulance
- Free Rough Camping
- No Glass in Concert Area
- Pets must be on leash

SUNDAY

10:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

GOSPEL HOUR

11:00 - 12:00

ADMISSION

WEEKEND — \$13 PER PERSON
FRIDAY ONLY — \$4 PER PERSON
SATURDAY ONLY — \$6 PER PERSON
SUNDAY ONLY — \$6 PER PERSON
14 AND UNDER — FREE WITH PARENTS

FEATURING

DIAMOND BACK RATTLERS

WHITE BIRCH

LORNE BUCK & BLUEGRASS JAM

YANKEE STRINGS

THE PROVERBS

CROSS COUNTRY GRASS

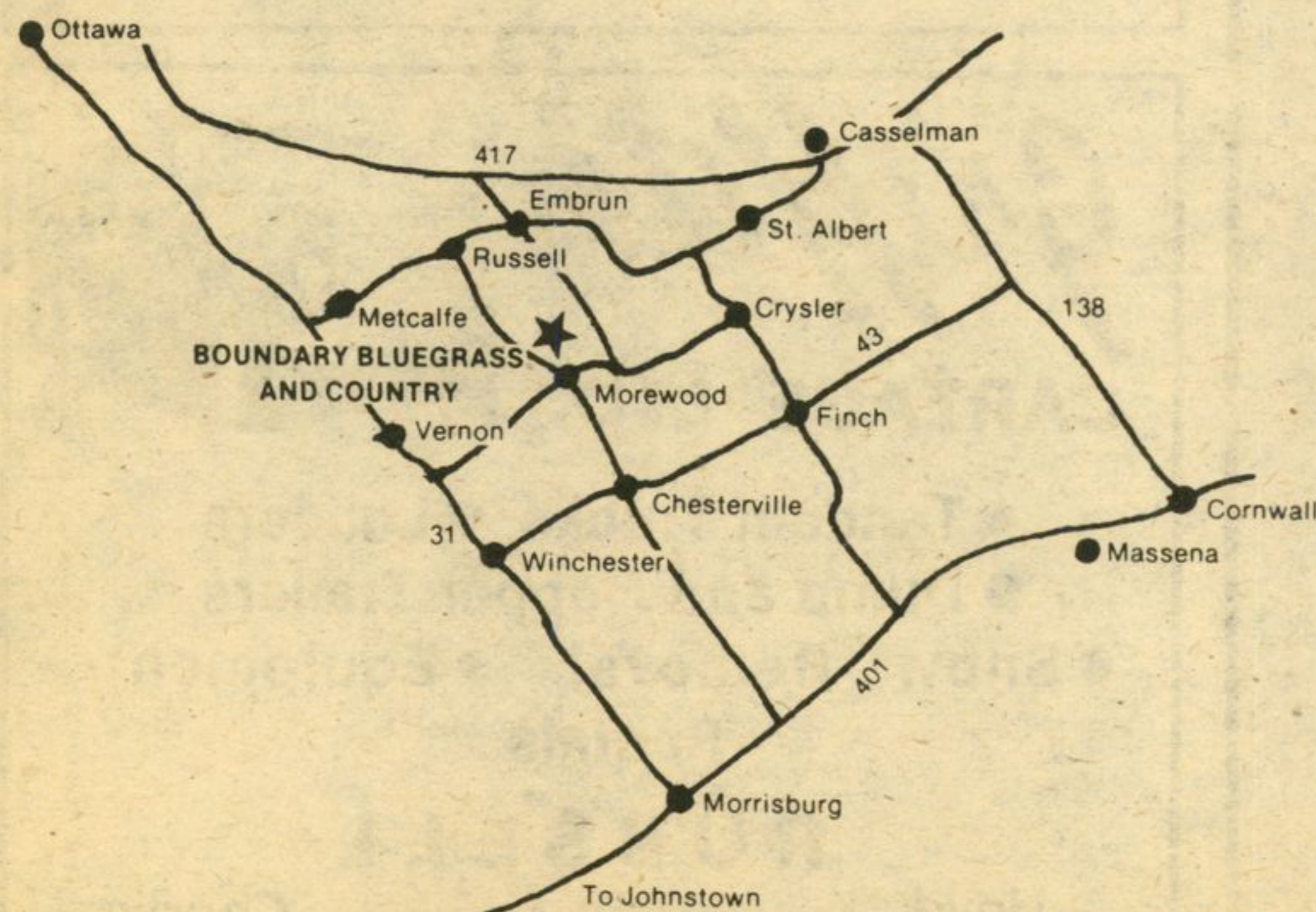
CROSSFIRE BLUEGRASS

BYTOWN BLUEGRASS

RIDEAU RIVER GRASS

CINDY THOMPSON

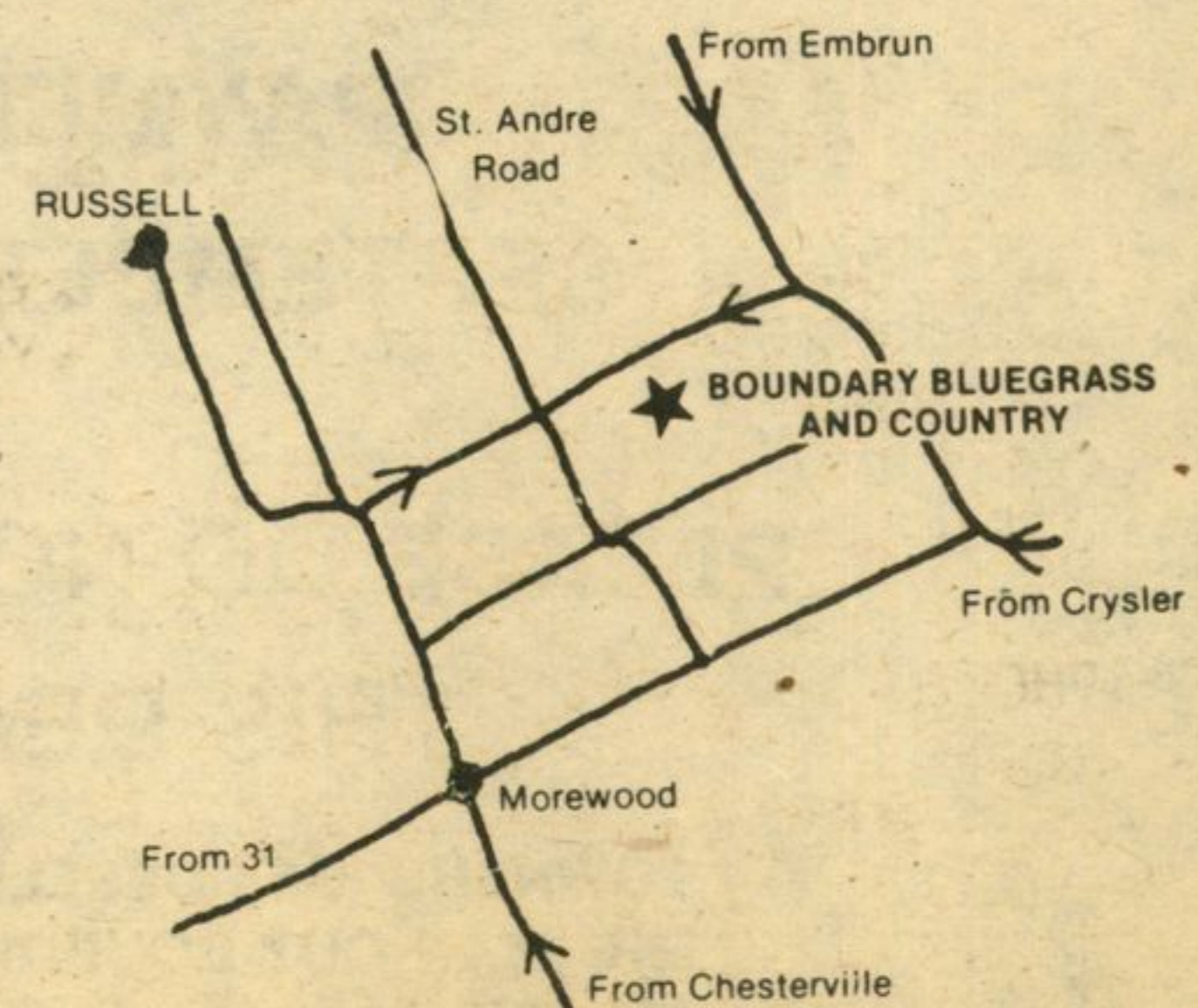
STEP DANCING



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