

Country Fair in the morning

By Thomas Van Dusen

The best time for a country fair is in the morning. By morning, I mean around nine or 9:30, a time that seems like the middle of the day to exhibitors who've been up for a few hours already, combing, cleaning, clipping their charges for the judging ahead. I'm sitting in the curling club, given over to handicrafts, vegetables and other displays put up by the ladies of North Russell, Russell Village and adjacent areas. I am eating — enjoying, experiencing, immersing myself in — the finest piece of apple pie in the entire world. It is a product of the North Russell ladies.

Flanking this incredible apple pie on the counter are other pies, raspberry running pink on the plate; pumpkin, lemon meringue still warm from the oven. A lost

art, baking creating, confecting pies of this kind, except in the back sections of country fairs.

Let us give a full measure of credit to Michelangelo who lay on his back for fourteen years painting the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel; Rubens, who painted buxom Flemish maidens; Velasquez, whose art gave to the world the beautiful ladies of Old Spain. They were artists. So are the ladies responsible for creating these culinary masterpieces.

The sheep judging gets an early start. It is not every one who is taken with sheep. My wife is one of those who is. So we ankle over to the sheep judging officiated by the Old Master, Ernie Burton, veteran of the Royal and other great shows, now doing his stuff in Russell in the morning.

The sheep have been combed, clipped, powdered like so many Shirley Temples. Their handlers step out and must control them by word of mouth, or occasionally by throwing an arm around the beast's neck.

One sheep, coincidentally, is the grandmother of our sheep Daphne and after a fractious display of jumping and bucking, she is given the nod for best in her class by the judge who explains her finer points to the assembled sheep fanciers.

The horses are out, too, satiny geldings, hunters and jumpers, the sun striking a golden reflection from burnished hides. The solemnity of the young ladies who are called to pilot these magnificent beasts through their paces is something to behold, like presentation day at Buckingham Palace.

Then you have the Western buffs in the big hats and high boots, sitting tall like so many John Waynes or a poor man's Bonanza. And over all, the searing scent of barbecuing beef at the fair rolls into its final day, the giant wheels off the Midway cutting arcs in the morning sky. There's nothing quite like a country fair in the morning.



FLOSSY LADIES

A day at the fair is hardly complete without a sticky swirl of candy floss. Keri Middlemiss and Deanne Saunders, both 15, of Russell enjoy the treat during last weekend's Russell Fair.

EMPLOYMENT NOTICE

PART-TIME ICE AND MAINTENANCE STAFF.

Dr. Kinnaird Community Centre.

People wishing work from Sept. 15, 1980 to April 15, 1981 are asked to submit a letter of application to:

Paul Wylie
Recreation Director
P.O. Box 9
Russell, Ont.
By Aug. 29, 1980.

Castor Chatter



Russell Lion Ray McNamara isn't letting the summer sun get to him. He's thinking cooling thoughts of the Russell Winter Carnival, still several months away. Not only are the thoughts refreshing but they help Ray get a head start on planning for the event which runs from Feb. 4 to Feb. 8. Among returning attractions will be the queen pageant, the wine cavern, bed race — there was only one entry last winter — broomball tournament, and curling bonspiel. Ray is coordinating the carnival with Paul Wylie and hopes to attract more interest from outside the village. Last winter, it cost \$5,000 to stage and the Lions and Recreation Association each reaped profits of \$1,260. Proceeds are poured back into the community through charitable work, Ray notes.

There are bridal showers, then there are bridal showers. More than 60 friends turned out at North Russell Women's Institute July 24 to shower Christina Schroeder, a lifelong resident who will remain in the community as the wife of Andre Heymans. Chris is the only daughter of Beatrice Schroeder (nee Wood) and the late William Schroeder.

If you haven't seen Kay Smit lately, it's because for four months, she spent 8-10 hours a day weaving dancers' vests, jackets and capes for a boutique at the 1980 Square Dancers' Convention at the Ottawa Civic Centre. Torn between dancing and exhibiting her work, Kay couldn't pass up the unique opportunity of displaying her hand-woven clothing to the six-thousand-strong delegates from North America, Europe and even New Zealand.

Children at the Doc Kinnaird community centre Aug. 6 learned that it doesn't take much to make music. The kids were treated to a humorous performance by husband and wife entertainers Eric and Marty Nagler, of Toronto. The Naglers, who made a name for themselves on the coffee house circuit over the past several years, specialize in throw-together musical instruments. From two tin cans and a rubber band they contrived bongo drums, from a handsaw, cymbals — all to the delight of the kids. The Naglers are currently touring Eastern Ontario libraries. The Russell library sponsored their appearance in Russell.

Senior Citizens Back "Day"

Senior citizens of Russell and sending our petition to organization throughout Eastern Ontario are voicing support of George Blackburn's play, "A Day and so far the response has been To Remember", which many of heart-warming. We find it hard to them viewed at Morrisburg last summer.

A petition is being drawn up by a committee of the Russell Village Senior Citizens headed by Bertha Smith and will be forwarded to Premier Davis, in spite of the fact that the Premier this week announced the province was cutting off funding for the play. "This is too bad," Bertha Smith said. "Our members enjoyed the play very much. We are hard to find."

Corporation of the Township of Russell

Municipalite du Canton de Russell

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Sanitary Sewers

Village of Russell

In July, 1979, a Notice and an Invoice showing Plan A or Plan B, namely for your choice of prepaying the Frontage and Connection charges, was sent to you and your final decision has to be decided upon or before September 15, 1980.

This is to advise you that the deadline of September 15, 1980 will not be extended. As the sanitary Sewer System is a Provincial jurisdiction, the Ministry of Environment will not consider prepaid payments after September 15, 1980. The unpaid portion will be charged against each property for a period of 40 years.

It is also important that, whether or not your property is hooked up to the system, the monthly charges will become effective October 1, 1980. As at July 15, 1980, 54 properties are not hooked up. **The monthly usage charge does not apply to vacant lots.** So whether your property is hooked up or not as of October 1, 1980, the usage charges will be enforced under the authority of By-Law 20-79 Paragraph 9. Please be governed accordingly.

J. G. Bourdeau
Clerk-Administrator

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