News

Trustees to meet in Russell

The Prescott and Russell County Board of Education will be holding a public meeting at the Russell Public School on November 25, at 8:00 p.m.

The Board is presently engaged in reviewing its aims and objectives. The purpose of this meeting is to provide all parents and ratepayers with an opportunity to voice their concerns and to make recommendations.

This is an important meeting. The Board must be aware of how parents perceive the schools and what improvements parents desire, if it is to design aims and objectives that reflect the kind of education parents want for their children.

Police nab 21 for theft

A major investigation by the Casselman detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police has lead to the arrest of 21 young people in the Russell-Prescott area. Most of the people arrested were charged with breaking and entering.

The investigation was conducted by Provincial Constables R. Cayen and D. Conway with the assistance of constables from Rockland, Hawkesbury, Long Sault, and Winchester.

During the course of the investigation \$3,742 worth of stolen property was recovered. Most of the stolen material originated in the Casselman detachment area.

The people charged during investigation ranged in age from 16 to 25. A 39 year-old man was also charged. The charges included breaking and entering businesses and residences, possession of drugs and armed robbery.

Tots win Hallowe'en prizes

When all the devils and ghosts and goblins left the streets of Russell after their trick or treating on Halloween they all gathered at the arena to meet and compare their loot.

The Halloween party was

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Russeller John Bols pretends to be enjoying the recent Red Cross blood donor clinic at the Dr. Kinnaird Community Centre. Clinical Assistant Christine Lafortune offers encouragement. Some 107 persons attended the event — organized by the Russell Village Women's Institute.

Dennis McGann photo

organized by the Russell Recreation Association and featured a costume judging. Louise and Serge Gervais and Margaret Burton judged the costumes.

Amanda Rokosh won the Most Creative Costume category as a butterfly. Amy Constantineau, as little Red Riding Hood, had the prettiest costume. Barbara Inglis was judged as having the ugliest costume when she dressed up as a witch.

The scariest goblin at the party was Leigh Goldin with her Red Devil costume. The Cutest Toddler category was won by "Little Bo Peep" Caroline Pharand. The most original costume was won by "Big Bird" Rachel Belanger.

Mark Rennick and Tony Hogeveen were the winners of the mask-making event.

Gregoire closes doors

In 1939, when the world seemed determined to cancel its future in yet another global war, Albert Gregoire decided to build a life for himself and his family in Embrun. He started a car dealership hoping it would eventually thrive as a family business.

Fifteen years later, when his son

Raymond graduated high school and joined the firm as mechanic, his hopes were realized. With the hoisting of a new sign flashing "A. and R. Gregoire" the family was in business.

And business was good. In 1957 the firm won the area's first General Motors franchise. The company flourished and eventually ended up employing more than 75 people in the town.

Two months ago, just before Halloween, Raymond Gregoire finally acknowledged that a combination of high interest rates and a soft market for North American cars killed his father's dream. With a promise that "some day I'll be back on the front page" he shut down the dealership his father had started 42 years before. "We couldn't get back on top"

said Ray Chatelain, the company's sales manager. "It was a combination of high interest rates and operational costs as well as fewer customers."

Russell Township Reeve Gaston Patenaude described the closing as "the worst tragedy in the township as far back as I can remember.

"It's very hard for the township and the village of Embrun especially" he said. "It looks funny to see the corner clean like that."

"Everybody feels the same way," said Jean-Marie Seguin, President of Embrun's Chamber of Commerce, "It's very unfortunate for this town."

With the closing of A. and R. Gregoire, Embrun lost not only a family business and 75 jobs, but a major sponsor of the community's sports teams and events.

Reeve Patenaude said in an interview there was no immediate prospects of another company taking over the dealerships property. "It looks as if the building will sit idle for this winter."

Meanwhile, Raymond Gregoire is looking over job offers and "studying the economy to see what's available" just as his father did 42 years ago. "There's room for me later on. I've never stopped fighting to the last minute."

\$500 is the Regal figure

The Russell Figure Skating Club and the Children's Activity Committee will share \$500 as a result of the sale of Regal gifts products.

Donna Nordenstrom, one of the organizers says additional orders are anxiously awaited. "We remind everyone that orders must be placed by November 30th in order to guarantee delivery in time for Christmas," she said. Please call 445-2936 for more information.





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