

Chatter

Greg and the weeds

Greg Rokosh can run fast but not as fast as the weeds growing in Russell's Fitness Trail. Greg is a former national-level oarsman and a dedicated runner. Recently he's been running the Fitness Trail on the south shore of the Castor just east of the Village. But he reports increasing weed-cover. "The trail is rapidly returning to its native state," says Greg. "Without a ground cover such as wood-chips, stone dust or gravel the weeds will soon over-run the 10-foot wide trail." The trail will be covered with snow soon but if you have any solution to stop next year's weed growth write the Castor Review.

Legion Winner

The winner of the Russell Legion's \$500 draw was Jack Carlyle of Morewood. The draw was held at the Russell Legion Hall during the Legion's annual Armistice supper and dance on November 7th. The proceeds from the draw will go towards renovating the Legion's building.

Kidney Foundation

Russell Township Council has approved a request from the Ottawa chapter of the Kidney Foundation of Canada to conduct a door-to-door fund-raising campaign in the area next March.

Delayed Corn Harvest

Record rainfall in Ontario delayed the corn harvest and ruined many crops this year according to the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. In a brief to the Ontario Cabinet, the OFA's President Ralph Barrie, said: "There are many desperate, disillusioned farmers out there who were counting on this year's harvest to make ends meet." Barrie censured the Cabinet for offering only limited aid to farmers.

By-law Officer

Russell by-law enforcement officer Gerard Belisle will be remunerated at a rate of \$12 per complaint handled, according to a recent council decision.

Heritage House

A heritage house acquired by the township council from the NCC is to be restored as a museum featuring the history of Embrun. Looks like another argument in favour of a similar museum for Russell, using the old schoolhouse on the North Road.

Russell plan approved

The new official plan for the Township of Russell, recently given final approval by the provincial government, toughens restrictions on 'non-farm' rural severances and within villages, defines commercial cores and provides for the preservation of older buildings of heritage quality.

"The limiting of residential buildings in farm areas is intended to preserve and expand large, viable family or corporate farms and to encourage marginal farm land back into production," says Russell Township Planning Board Chairman Baird McNeill.

McNeill also said the new official plan also serves to minimize the conflict between commercial farm operations and nearby residents, especially as feed lots and the spraying of liquid manure become more common.

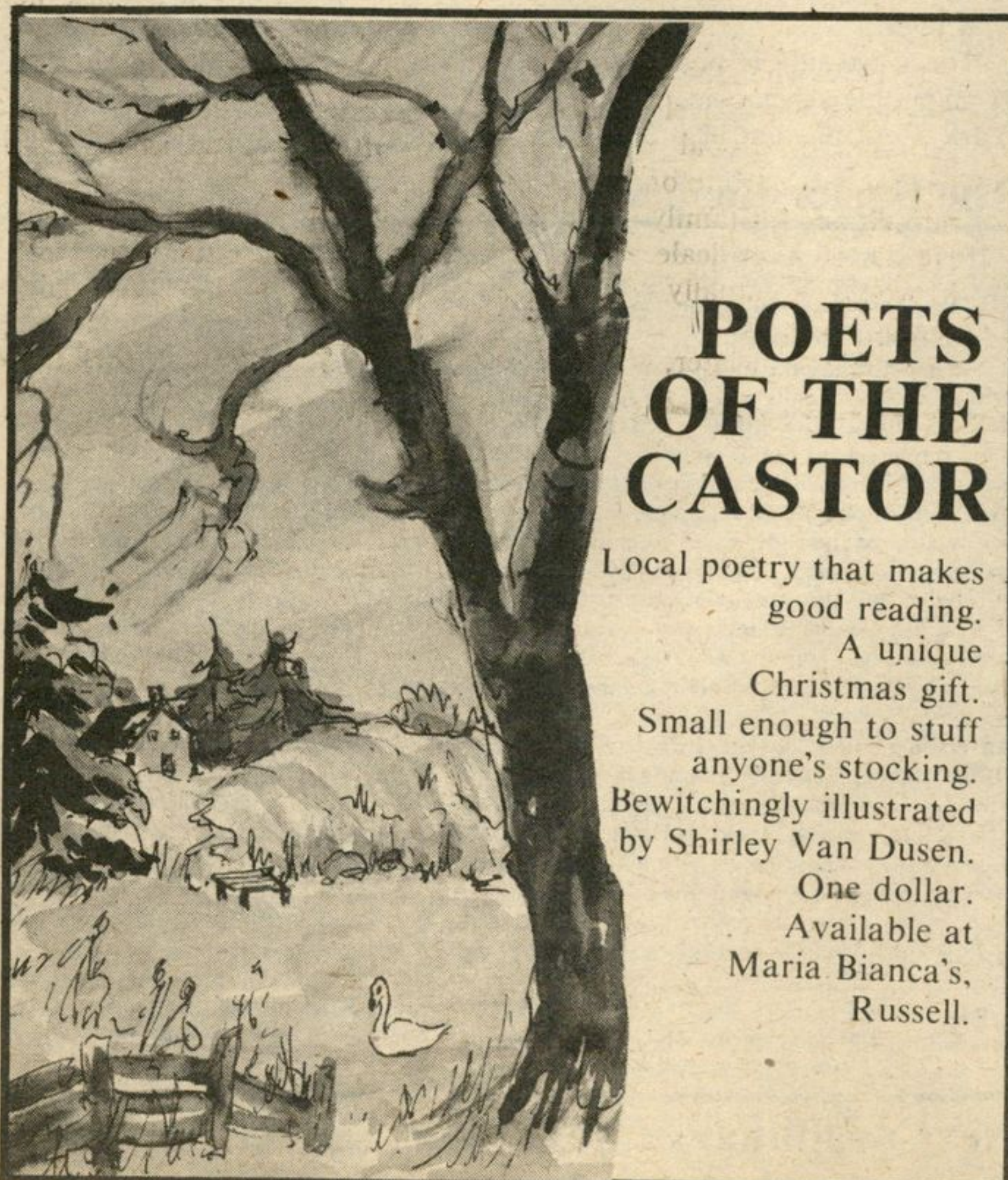
"Preserving the quality of village life, the grudging mix of traditional values and urban change, is more complex and was debated during the past several months at several spirited meetings in Russell Village," McNeill said.



The new plan defines the commercial core where it now exists but allows for logical expansion as necessary. The plan also requires the maintenance of the appearance of large older homes adjacent to the business core, while allowing for a limited change of interiors to accommodate more than one family or an appropriate business or professional practice.

McNeill says applications for new severances are lower than in previous years, but a recent trend the dividing of one-acre subdivision lots in the Village of Russell.

Doubt about the increasing value of present and future housing in the area is unwarranted, the Planning Board Chairman said. "The Gallup poll indicates that despite increasing energy costs for transportation, more families still prefer rural space and freedom to inner city excitement," McNeill said.



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November is Bazaar month and the Catholic Church's affair (above) kicked off the season — on the same Saturday that Bazaars were held in Morewood and Metcalfe. But there are still more to come — see Castor Calendar on page 16.

Pool drives for funds

The Russell Swimming Pool Committee has kicked off its Building Fund Drive with a raffle for \$100 in groceries. The lucky winner will be announced on December 31st at the Committee-sponsored New Year's Eve dance to be held in the Dr. Kinnaird Community Centre.

The fund drive is underway to finance replacing the Russell swimming pool's changing room facilities. "We're not sure what the final bill will be," says Committee member Alex Baillon, "but we know we must begin to raise funds now."

Baillon said the present structure, which houses the pool's washrooms, change areas, showers and storage rooms, is in desperate need of replacement.

"That building was erected by volunteers in 1967," he said. "And it has served us long and well but we just can't patch it up any longer."

Baillon says the Pool Committee expects to replace the building with a block structure and anticipates solid support from the community which is "using the facility more than ever before."

"The response to our summer swimming program is growing every year," he said, "attendance for lessons nearly doubled this past summer."

The Russell Swimming Pool Building Fund expects a big boost from attendance at the New Year's Eve dance which will feature the Ken Miller Orchestra.

Seniors have busy year

By Bertha Smith

The Russell Senior Citizens group is nearing the end of a very successful year. They enjoyed an achievement day with a dinner and a display of crafts. They entertained a sixtieth wedding anniversary. Later in the year they hosted the Metcalfe Senior Citizen's club and then the Morewood club.

Several bus trips were a great success; to Maxville for the Highland games, to the Parliament buildings, and a boat trip down the Ottawa river.

A highlight was the dedication of the new piano, made possible by a "New Horizons" grant, when Mr. Glen Cochrane of Russell ably entertained the audience.

Next on the agenda was a Fall bus trip to Rawdon, Quebec, when we enjoyed beautiful weather and lovely scenery.

Finally, a Christmas party is planned for December. On that day plates will be brought to shut-ins and those who can't attend.

Euchre parties are enjoyed each and every Saturday night at 8 o'clock at the Drop-In Centre, admission \$1.00 which includes lunch, and everyone is welcome.

The Russell Senior Citizen's Club wishes every one a Happy Holiday and Good Will for the coming year.

Russell NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE

Proceeds to Russell Swimming Pool Building Fund.

The Ken Miller
Orchestra. 9 p.m.~1 a.m.

Dr Frank Kinnaird Community Centre

Admission: \$20. per couple

Door prizes

Hot meal at midnight

Draw for \$100. in groceries

TICKETS: Maria Bianca's,
Ty's Red & White, Wade's.