

Giant Pumpkin Growers Seminar

A free Giant Pumpkin Growers Seminar will be held at the Wellington Town Hall from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm on Sunday, March 8, 1998.

This seminar will pave the way for the 2nd Annual Prince Edward County Pumpkinfest and will feature several speakers, a seed bazaar and auction and a panel of experts and growers that will answer questions on how to grow these Giant Pumpkins.

This year the competition will be open to all growers and we expect some big entries from Frankford, Battersea and all of Eastern Ontario.

The seed bazaar will lead off at noon with seeds being offered from 50 cents each to \$2.00 each for those from the 700 lb. plus pumpkins. The Giant Pumpkin Seed Auction will feature seeds from even bigger pumpkins and several seeds from the 1997 World Champion Pumpkin, 977 lbs. This gigantic pumpkin was grown by Chris Anderson of Moraga, California using seeds from our own Bill Greer's 1996 Canadian Championship Pumpkin which was 1006 lbs.

Giant-squash grower John Lyons from Baltimore, Ontario will give a talk on the techniques and secrets he has used to grow his championship squash. In 1996, John came first in Ottawa with a 684 lb. squash and in 1994 he and his son Chris grew a World Record Squash that weighed in at 900.8 lbs.

Squash and Giant Pumpkins have been cross-pollinated for years and the classification now is determined by the colour with 75% or more orange to white colour being classified as a pumpkin and more than 25% green being classified as squash.

The second guest speaker has been arranged by Wilma Courneya of County Farm Centre Limited. Serge Leclair is a representative of GROWMARK, a lawn and garden supply company in Mississauga and Serge will speak on fertilizer programmes, seeds, soil amendments, watering schedules and cultural practices. Serge grew prize-winning pumpkins in the Ottawa area for many years before he joined GROWMARK.

A panel discussion and question and answer session will follow featuring the guest speakers and our own Canadian Giant Pumpkin Champion, Bill Greer.

The seminar will wrap up with the Great Giant Pumpkin Seed Auction and the proceeds from this and the seed sales will go to the Pumpkinfest Committee to be used for prizes, advertising and other expenses.

All growers and potential growers are invited to attend and learn about this fascinating pastime.

For more information contact Jim Ives, 613-393-3958 e-mail mjives@post.kosone.com

It's Done! It's Done! It's Done!

Friday, February 20. 7:00 p.m. - various parties descend upon Mount Tabor with kids, tools and coffee cake in tow. Several hours later they depart leaving behind a fully carpeted Bredin Hall.

Saturday morning, February 21, 9:00 a.m. - "The Sound of Music" cast are able to park their bottoms on a (finally) no-dust surface. From the cast to that crew responsible for the final work at Mount Tabor a very big THANK YOU - and from the community too!

That crew includes Karen and Harry Lammes, Kathy and Les Stanfield, Doug Parker, Peter Mennacher, Tim and Kim Rorabeck. Earlier prep work for the rug laying included the efforts again of Doug Parker, Dianne Underhill, Alice and Marlin Mennacher and yours truly.

Prior to that, the painting, with paint generously donated by Pete and Nancy Fleck, was completed with Doug Parker at the helm. George Underhill, Alice Mennacher, Karen and Harry Lammes, Les Stanfield and myself also took a turn at the brush.

Now if I have missed someone from these crews, I can only blame the quantity of gyproc dust that I have inhaled over the last couple of months as responsible! Please know your efforts were MOST appreciated, volunteers!!

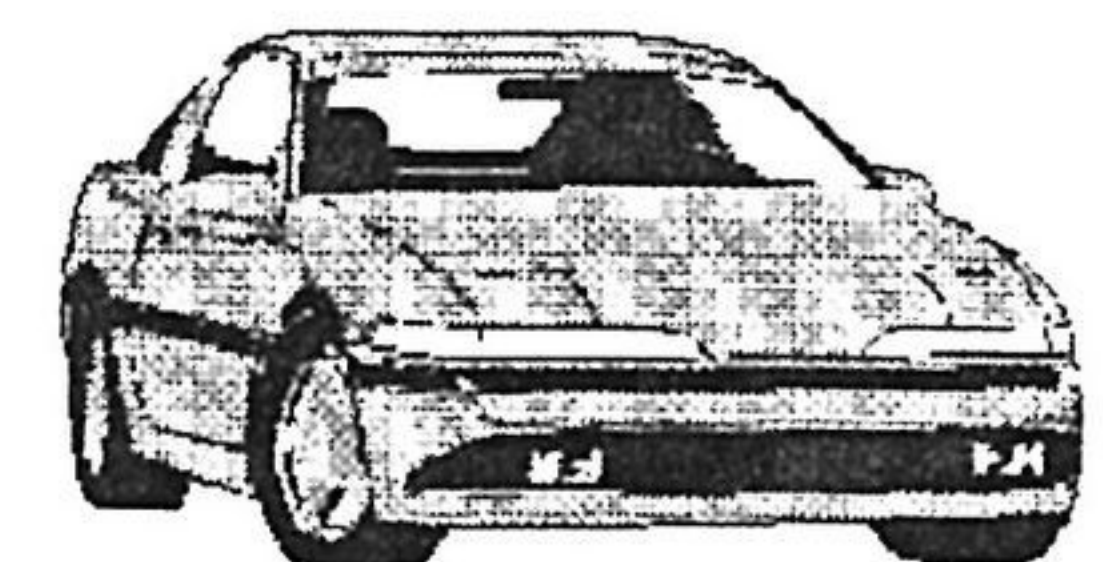
Hopefully we'll soon be able to have an official "OOh and AAh.." opening to share the completed site with the larger community.

I have calculated the volunteer contribution on this project at approximately 850 hours, once again demonstrating the human commitment to our "places to play" facilities in South Marysburgh (oops, Ward - whatever). It's ready to use folks - ENJOY!

- Monica Alyea

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