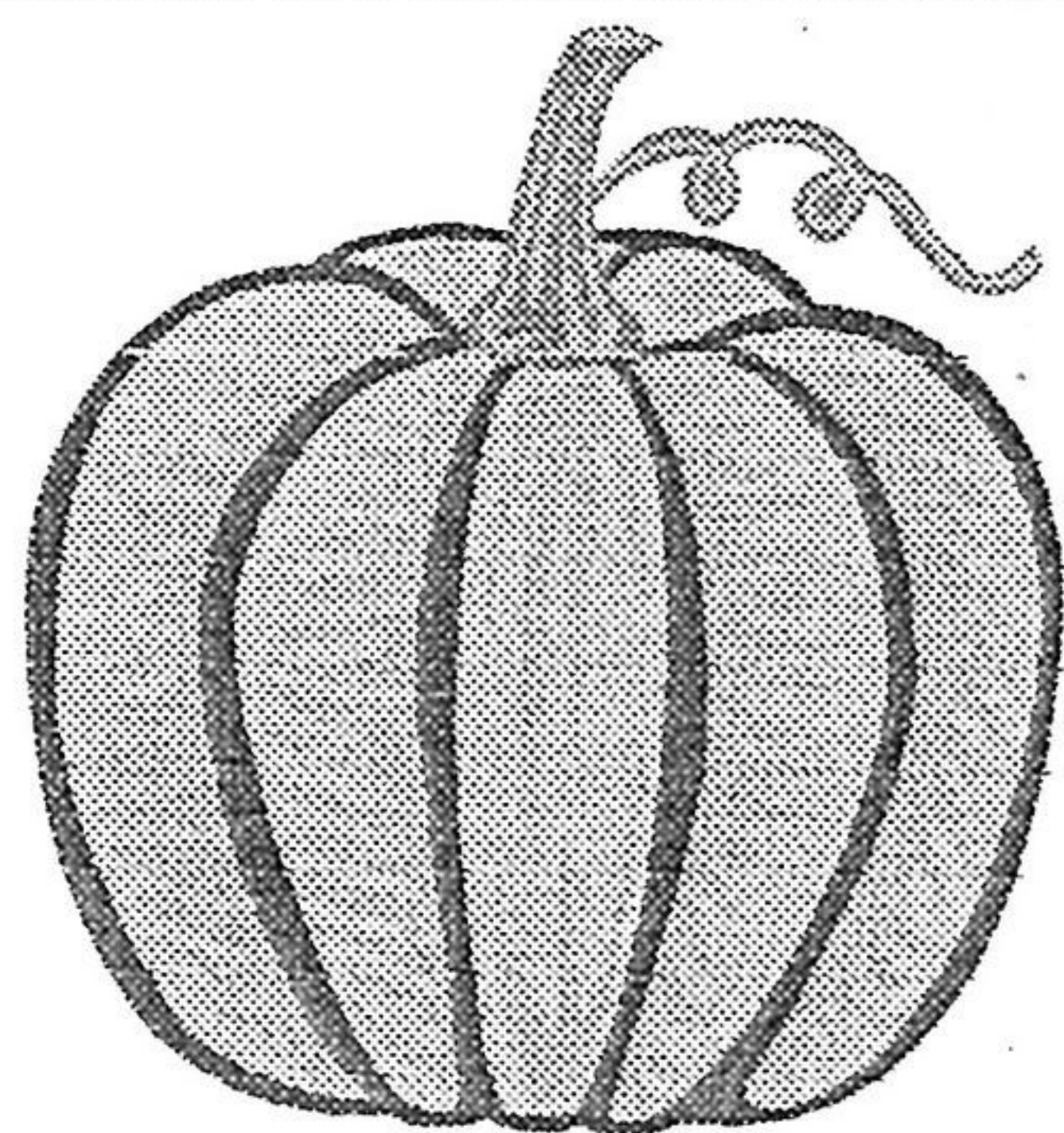


# From the Pumpkin Patch



By Jim Ives

It's time to think about Pumpkins again! The winter has been long and cold but beneath the snow, our soil is soaking up those trace elements and the bacteria below the frost line is busy working on breaking down the organic matter to provide nutrient for the next growing season.

My wife and I arrived back from Florida on the 3rd of March after leaving 92 degree Fahrenheit temperatures. Wow, what a shock...had to start up the old snowblower twice since then but it looks like the sun is now getting the best of that white stuff and we are busy preparing for our 4th Annual Pumpkin Grower's Seminar.

It will be held on Sunday, April 8th at the Town Hall in Wellington, starting at noon. This year we will have Dave McCallum, an experience grower from the Port Elgin Pumpkinfest area. Dave, who lives in Hanover, Ontario, grew a 943 lb. squash last year to take first prize in that category. He was also crowned "King of Growers" since he amassed the most points in entering his various giant vegetables at Port Elgin.

While in Florida, I had the pleasure of going fishing with the Florida Giant Pumpkin Champ, Tim Caniff who had just started his seeds in early February. His season is much earlier than ours is and he has to contend with intense heat in July and August.

Although we threw back the small redfish, red snappers, yellowtails, sheephead and flounder that we caught, Tim had a package of frozen snook fillets for us,

## NOTICE

**There will be a Fair Board meeting  
at the Milford Town Hall  
at 7:30 pm Tuesday, April 10th  
Everyone Welcome**

from a fish that he had caught the week before. They were sure delicious and tasted something like walleye although the flesh is much whiter and flakier.

Growers should be sorting our their seeds right now and checking out the genetics and records to see which seeds did well last year. Some of these charts will be available at our seminar and we will also have some excellent seeds for sale as well as memberships for 2001. In addition to our guest speaker, there will be a panel assembled to answer questions and to provide growing tips for all.

There is no charge for the seminar and everyone will be welcomed. So plan to come out, meet Dave and our Grower's Association executive and pick up some great seeds and growing information.

So Long from the Pumpkin Patch  
and keep em growing.....



## Giant Pumpkin Growers Seminar

The Prince Edward County Pumpkin Growers Association will hold a Giant Pumpkin Growers Seminar on Sunday, April 8th, 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm. at the Town Hall in Wellington. Guest Speaker, Dave McCallum from the Port Elgin Pumpkinfest. Seed sales and auction. Free Admission.



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