

Border crossing a high priority, transportation minister says

BY DANIEL SCHWAB

After pledging to visit Windsor-Essex County once a month, Minister of Transportation Donna Cansfield talked with greenhouse operators at Red Moose Great Northern Hydroponics in Ruthven on Friday about the province's efforts to stimulate the local economy.

Cansfield told reporters the local greenhouse industry is concerned about keeping their perishable products moving across the Canada-United States border in a timely fashion.

About 70 per cent of the tomatoes packaged at Red Moose are sent south of the border.

"I think the issue is around how do we keep Windsor-Essex moving," Cansfield said. "In this case, we're dealing with a perishable product so timing is critical.



Photo: Andy Comer

UNDER GLASS - Minister of Transportation Donna Cansfield, centre, takes a tour of the greenhouse operations of Great Northern Hydroponics in Ruthven Feb. 23, with company president Darrin Didychuk, right, and Essex MPP Bruce Crozier.

Gridlock is critical. Listening to that and understanding that really re-emphasizes the need to make a decision (on a new border crossing) in 2007."

Cansfield said improving the flow of border traffic is a high priority for the provin-

cial government. She said her visit to greenhouse businesses would help "frame the context as we move forward and make a decision on developing the border itself."

The minister said the government is still working on border crossing studies such

as those on air quality, and acquiring technical data before making a definitive decision on the type of border crossing to be constructed.

She did say the crossing will be built as a continuation of Highway 401 and that she expects an environmental assessment to be done next year and initial digging for the project to start in 2009, with completion in 2013.

Cansfield also confirmed that plans were on track to expand Highway 3, with construction expected to begin in the fall.

Phase one of the project is approximately 6.9 kilometres long, running just west of County Road 34 (Talbot Road) near Maidstone, easterly to just east of County Road 8 in Essex.

A preliminary cost estimate for phase 1 carries a price tag of about \$25 mil-

lion, with a completion date set for the fall of 2008.

During the local tour, Cansfield also visited the DaimlerChrysler DCX Assembly Plant in Windsor and met with LaSalle Mayor Gary Baxter.

Legion hosts local author Ron Van Stone

On Feb. 28, the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 201 on Talbot Street will be hosting a book signing event for local author Ron Van Stone from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Van Stone's recently published novel *Fateful Liaisons* will be on display, and the 72-year-old writer

will be selling and autographing the book.


Fateful Liaisons is the story of a young British soldier, Alan Stone, who emigrates to Canada in 1911. He gets married, but leaves his bride when he enlists as a soldier in the Canadian Army and is shipped overseas to fight in the First

World War. On the battlefield, Stone gets injured and while recuperating in hospital, he begins an affair with his nurse. After being sent out into the front lines again, the character is injured more seriously this time and sent home to his wife in Canada and forced to live with his secret.

Van Stone, a former police officer, has written nearly 20 books from Westerns to historical fiction.

After 30 years of writing, *Fateful Liaisons* is the first of his books to be published.

Trafford Publishing is promoting the book.



**NOTICE TO THE RESIDENTS
OF THE TOWN OF ESSEX
COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Please be advised that the Council of the Town of Essex is seeking interested citizens to serve on an ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Committee will act in an advisory capacity on matters of environmental importance or significance which may have an effect on the Town of Essex. Persons interested in serving on the Committee should submit their name in writing, along with a brief outline of their qualifications to the undersigned no later than Friday March 16, 2007.

**Jerry Marion, Clerk
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Fax: (519)776-8811**

**ESTATE COLLECTIBLES
AND ANTIQUES**

**AUCTION
SALE**

**Saturday, March 3rd at 9:00 A.M.
At Lakeside Park Pavilion, Kingsville**

We will be selling for Linda D.E. Dupuis of Amherstburg plus additions from a Windsor and Chatham Estate. **Collectibles:** 1950's neon Coca Cola clock with pulsating dial, and other Coke collectibles, 1938 Detroit Tigers pennant, 1940 World Series Pennant between Detroit and Cincinnati, 2 old swords, 1883 cast lion and monkey bank, Bing Pigmyphone miniature record player, large quantity of old fishing lures, fishing rods, reels and hooks, vintage plastic working decoys, 2 old wooden decoys, cast iron door stop, very unique carving of 2 cicadas on horn, marble collection, perfume bottles, 7 seltzer bottles, oil paintings, watercolours, prints, picture frames, oak telephone paper weights, signed Joe St. Clair, plastic radios, old toys, 8 ft. metal Statue of Liberty, post cards, 1970's silver dollars and other coins, Canadian paper money, lighting rods, dolls, autographed photo, card and puck from Bobby Hull, CNR gas can, gingerbread clock, etc. **Estate Jewelry & Sterling Silver:** 14 kt. gold ring with diamond app. \$2,760, sterling silver rattle signed Tiffany & Co., 3 piece sterling silver coffee set, etc. **Furniture:** mahogany dining room set, mahogany bedroom set, oak file cabinet, pine grain bin, oak fireplace mantle, unique mahogany cabinet with hidden safe, painted cabinet with leaded glass doors, rattan sofa, old wicker, etc. **Large Quantity of Glassware & China:** Loetz inkwell, rare 13: Vaseline glass fish bowl, Vaseline water set, Wallaceburg amber glass cane, partial set of Coalport "Indian Tree", collection of Fiesta Ware, Royal Doulton, over 200 salt and pepper shakers, Belleek, Amethyst, pinwheel Cornflower, Cranberry, Noritaki, etc. **Lamps, Lighting & Misc.:** pair of signed Pairpoint candlestick lamps, 1920's copper table lamp, chairs, chandeliers and wall sconces from 13 Russell, linens and doilies **and much more!**

**Viewing Saturday from 8:00 A.M.
LACASSE AUCTIONS INC.
(519)733-3541
FOR PHOTOS & LISTING:
www.lacasseauctions.com**



 PARKS and RECREATION 2007 March Break Schedule					
SKATING PROGRAMS		Essex Memorial Arena - 26 Fairview Avenue West, Essex Harrow & Col. S. Arena - 243 McAfee Street, Harrow			
	Cost	Monday March 12th	Tuesday March 13th	Wednesday March 14th	Thursday March 15th
Jr. Shinny* (13 yrs. & younger)	\$2.00 / person	11:00 am - 12:30 pm	11:00 am - 12:30 pm	11:00 am - 12:30 pm	11:00 am - 12:30 pm
<i>Shinny Hockey Participants - Helmets and Proper Equipment is required</i>					
Sr. Shinny* (14 yrs. +)	\$2.00 / person	12:30 pm - 2:00 pm	12:30 pm - 2:00 pm	12:30 pm - 2:00 pm	12:30 pm - 2:00 pm
Public Skating	\$2.50 / person \$8.00 /family (max 5)	2:00 pm - 3:30 pm	2:00 pm - 3:30 pm	2:00 pm - 3:30 pm	2:00 pm - 3:30 pm
DAY CAMP PROGRAMS		Essex Memorial Arena - 26 Fairview Avenue West, Essex Harrow & Col. S. Arena - 243 McAfee Street, Harrow			
	Cost	Monday March 12th	Tuesday March 13th	Wednesday March 14th	Thursday March 15th
Clubhouse Daycamp	1 Child - \$85.00 / wk 2 Children - \$160.00 / wk 3 Children - \$225.00 / wk	9:00 am - 4:30 pm	9:00 am - 4:30 pm	9:00 am - 4:30 pm	9:00 am - 4:30 pm
For more info Call: 519-776-8992 Early drop off (7:30 am) & late pick up is available. Ask for details.					
SWIMMING PROGRAMS		Essex Recreation Complex (attached to Essex High School)			
	Cost	Monday March 12th	Tuesday March 13th	Wednesday March 14th	Thursday March 15th
Senior Social Soak	\$1.00/ visit	11:00 am - 12:00 pm	11:00 am - 12:00 pm	11:00 am - 12:00 pm	11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Tot Time Swim Leisure Pool	\$3.75 /Child accompanied by a Caregiver	11:00 am - 12:00 pm	11:00 am - 12:00 pm	11:00 am - 12:00 pm	11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Aqua Fitness	\$4.50 / visit or pass	11:00 am - 12:00 pm	11:00 am - 12:00 pm	11:00 am - 12:00 pm	11:00 am - 12:00 pm
Deep Aqua Fitness		7:30 pm - 8:30 pm	7:30 pm - 8:30 pm	7:30 pm - 8:30 pm	7:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Adult Length Swimming	\$3.25 / visit or pass	7:00 am - 8:30 am	12:00 pm - 1:15 pm	7:00 am - 8:30 am	12:00 pm - 1:15 pm
		8:30 pm - 10:00 pm		8:30 pm - 10:00 pm	
RECREATIONAL SWIM	\$2.75 / person \$8.25 /family (max 5)	1:30 - 3:30 pm	1:30 - 3:30 pm	1:30 - 3:30 pm	1:30 - 3:30 pm
Admission Policy Applicable. Ask for details.		6:00 - 7:30 pm		6:00 - 7:30 pm	7:00 - 9:00 pm
FAMILY SWIM					6:00 - 7:00 pm

For more arena & facility information call Janice @ 776-7336 ext. 24 or check our website @ www.townofessex.on.ca