

Wednesday Oct 3rd 2007

GUINNESS WORLD RECORD® ATTEMPT



jerawford/HORIZON

The Wallacetown Agricultural Society attempted a Guinness World Record to have the most pirates in one location on the opening night of the 147th Annual Wallacetown Fair. Although the official records are still being reviewed, the most accurate report is that there were 324 pirates on hand for the attempt. To be included in the record attempt, each pirate would need 3 pieces of pirate costume to be counted. As the above photo shows... 3 pieces was not a problem! Pirates came from places like Sarnia, Strathroy, London and beyond just to take part. This year's fair was another huge success and is reported that attendance numbers are up significantly over last year. See pages 8,9 and back page for more scenes and stories of the 2007 Wallacetown Fair. Great job Wallacetown Agricultural Society on another great year! gkelly/HORIZON

Donna Myhrea



Joe Myhrea

Parade.



Steve Peters M.P. Sept 27th 2007.

Rein Van Borenk

Kelly
Locke



Having lunch at Wallacetown Hall.

Parade Sept 29th 2007.



Aerial Angels - from
Casamasa Michigan



Parade



Parade.

The best of the best.



John Lilley, Bruce McCann, Ron Ross, Dave Welch, Joe Myhrae.
Some of the Directors on the Wallacetown Fair Board.



Sunday Sept 30th 2007
Demolition Derby.



LOCAL

Remembrance set in stone

St. Thomas Times-Journal, Friday, November 9, 2007 15

BY SUN MEDIA

DUTTON — A bitter wind, fierce enough to pluck poppies from lapels, whirls between and around the headstones.

The cackle of nearby starlings. A musty-leaf smell from an adjacent cornfield. And punctuating the greys and browns that blend sky with ground, patches of eternal red.

These are the poppies — 105 of them — permanently cemented into place in a unique memorial to rural Elgin county veterans.

The farm boys who went off to war and never came back. The accountants and doctors and gro-

cery clerks who saw horrific battle and never spoke of it during their civilian lives. The nurses who served, and returned and raised sons and daughters who themselves joined up for the next campaign.

Each is carefully noted with an aluminum poppy, through the dedication of 81-year-old veteran Lorne Spicer of Southwold and with the help of the Southwold Veteran Society.

And what goes through Spicer's mind as he cements each poppy into place?

"A lot of things that you really couldn't explain,"

he says, his eyes tearing up from the wind on this day.

"You just more or less compare it to yourself and you wonder, what's their story?"

He thinks of Flight Sgt. John William (Billie)

Ross, for example:

"He was born the same year I was," says Spicer. They joined the air force the same year, in 1943.

Spicer navigated seven bombing trips over Germany before war's end. But Ross, a gunner on a Lancaster bomber, completed just four operations when he was killed on a training flight a few days after his 19th birthday.

Ross was the only child of only children, and the last of his line, says local genealogist and historian Don Carroll.

"He was a favourite of the community. It really hit the community hard

when he died."

About six years ago, Spicer saw a few similar medallions at a cemetery in Drumbo, Ont., and decided it was long overdue to pay tribute to Canadian war veterans at graveside, not just at cenotaphs.

It became a personal mission, as he enlisted legions of local genealogists, historians and veterans to identify veterans of the First and Second World Wars and the Korean War.

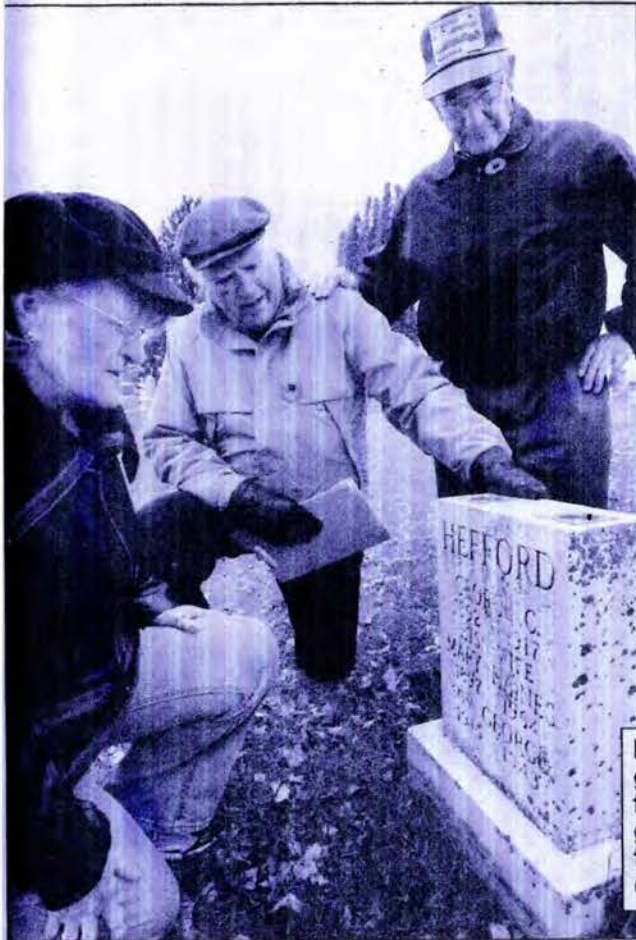
"We did research for a year while preparing for it," says Pat Temple, whose grandfather, father and several uncles were veterans.

Their initial scope was just Southwold Cemetery. Then it grew.

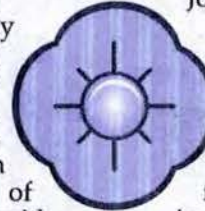
Now, more than 650 poppies dot markers at half a dozen cemeteries in rural west Elgin.

And they're still finding some.

"We got 10 more just SEE LOOK, PAGE 6



Pat Temple, Don Carroll, and Lorne Spicer examine the gravestone marking the Heffords. The three have carefully identified and marked with a red poppy all the gravestones of veterans resting in the Fairview Cemetery south of Dutton. Note the two poppies on the top of the Hefford stone. (Sun Media photo)



Aug 23 / 2007

Taking the Plunge campaign nearly completed

"We're just about our goal," said Joe Mylrea, president of the Wallace town Agriculture Society. The goal, to build new washroom at the fair grounds.

Unfortunately, it won't be built in time for this year's fair, but construction is set to begin after the fair which runs Sept. 28 to Sept. 30.

The Society's "Take the Plunge" has been going strong all summer.

Going door-to-door, holding events

and placing jars with plungers around the area the society hopes to raise about \$25,000.

An Ontario Trillium Foundation grant was awarded for \$63,000 earlier this year.

"We're still accepting donations," said Mylrea. The washrooms, to be located in the

middle of the grounds, will benefit Wallace town Soccer, the fair and community events

held at the grounds. Something internationally significant is in store for this year's fair.

Organizers are making an attempt at setting record to

go in the Guinness Book of World's Records.

It's hoped a new record will be set for the most pirates in one place, the first night of the fair.

Representatives from Guinness have been contacted and will be attending to count.

This year's theme is the Pirates of Caribbean.



Take the plunge campaign helped

Joe Mylrea, president of the Wallace town Agriculture Society accepts \$1,000 donations from the Jerry Galbraith representing the Investors Group and Cameron Lodge #232 in Dutton.

JEFF KEMPENAAR/THE CHRONICLE



Wallacetown Soccer donates to "Take the Plunge"!

Pictured above: Wallacetown Soccer President - Michael White (r) and Wallacetown Soccer Treasurer - Patrick Nolan (l) present a cheque for a whopping \$10,000.00 to the Wallacetown Agricultural Society's V.P. Sheri Lackey in support of the Ag. Society's "Take The Plunge Campaign". "Take the Plunge" is the Agricultural Society's current capital project to install permanent washroom facilities in the infield at the Wallacetown Fairgrounds. Lackey stated that "donations such as this are very much appreciated as well as the fact that it shows how local organizations can work together for the betterment of everyone and our community."

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"Wallacetown Soccer has earmarked these funds through fund raising initiatives that were focused on improvements to our soccer program, commented White. The three are standing in front of the coral that is being converted to the permanent washroom facilities. -gkelly/HORIZON

'... look at all the poppies'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5
last week" at the Southwold Remembrance ceremony, says Spicer.

Many names now come from family members or from history "diggers" such as Carroll and Temple.

Carroll knows the tales below most headstones at Fairview: the fathers and sons, the aunts.

Here was a doctor who saved many lives during the war and returned, his own health broken. This was an American-born flight engineer, the son of a local minister, who completed almost 50 combat flights before he was killed over Austria.

And over here, a grocery store owner, killed in action during the liberation of Belgium.

Carroll pauses at the headstone of Ralph H. Bailey, who died in 1997. He was an airman who parachuted to safety when his pilot fainted on a training flight over Lake Erie.

In civilian life, Bailey taught high school history and Latin, then became an education professor in London.

"He was the best teacher I ever had," Carroll says. It is partly in tribute to Bailey that Carroll carries on this work.

But the number of living veterans dwindles and ages — even to the point that this year Dutton's Remembrance ceremonies this evening will take place indoors, out of the harsh November weather, at the Dutton/Dunwich town hall.

But the poppies at Fairview remain as a per-

petual tribute, Spicer says.

Temple says the message hits home to cemetery visitors who knew none of the veterans nor their families.

"We had this six-year-old here who said, 'Oh, look at all these soldiers.' His mom asked, 'How do you know that?' And he said, 'Just look at all the poppies.'"

The Ross cemetery marker stands in Fairview Cemetery south of Dutton. John William (Billie) Ross went off to war and was killed at age 19. (Sun Media photo)

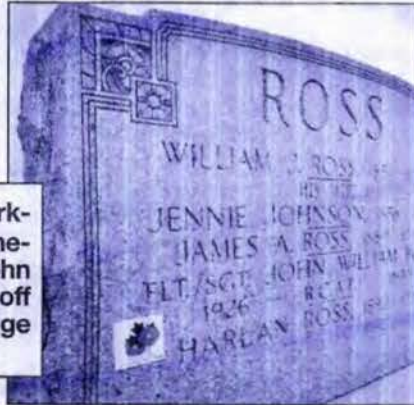
Cemeteries quietly remind of terrible wars

By SUN MEDIA

DUTTON — From this soil came the life's blood of the community. They were ordinary men and women who plowed fields, raised children, held jobs.

Some died as teenagers. Some lived beyond wartime to become old.

It is in Fairview Cemetery — and hundreds like it across Ontario —



that the stories of a small town collide with the stories of world conflict.

Some profiles of the veterans of Fairview Cemetery south of Dutton:

PTE. GEORGÉ HEFFORD and **PTE. GEORGE COLE HEFFORD** — George Sr. was killed in action at Vimy Ridge on April 9, 1917, and left behind two sons, ages two and four. The two-year-old, George Cole, later served with the Royal Canadian Regiment and was killed during the invasion of Sicily in 1943. His mother outlived her husband and son.

SGT. RICHARD OWEN GRAY — An RAF pilot training at the Fingal Bombing and Gunnery School. He was operating a Lysander plane that crashed into Lake Erie, for reasons still unexplained. A father and son found his remains washed ashore after a violent storm.

UNKNOWN RCAF PILOT — Shot down in 1943 over Lake Erie while on a training flight. Apparently another training crew thought

blank ammunition was being used. The six-year-old son of a local fisherman saw the plane go down. A bullet hole was found in a part of the undercarriage.

GRAHAM FAMILY — Five of their number served in the wars, including Sgt. Lorne Graham, a doctor whose medical service in war-torn Europe cost him his health. He died in 1923, age 37. Other cousins, including another doctor, Malcolm Graham, and Malcolm's sister, Margaret, also served.

McCALLUM FAMILY — Wilfred served in the Second World War. His four sons — Junior, Ivan, John W. and George — all also served in the military. Junior and Ivan saw action in the Korean War. Their Aunt Margaret McCallum had served in the Second World War. Junior, Ivan, John and their aunt died within five years of each other, from 1999 to 2003.

147th Wallacetown Fair

Photos by Jeff Kempenaar and Jean Guy St Jacques



Baby pirate

Maybe the youngest of the 327 pirates at the fair Friday night was four month old Karlie Miller who attended with her mother Karen Veraart.



Midway

Micheal Durocher and Ryan Rinardi of Rodney were a couple of pirate bikers on the Carter Shows Midway Friday.



Beef Club

The West Elgin Beef 4H Intermediate Showmanship competition was Saturday. Taylor Gosnell from Iona Station, Belldoon Farms, went on to win the competition.



Goat show

Junior competitors with the 4-H Goat Club impressed the judge with their knowledge of the goat's body parts Friday night in the 4-H building, before a crowd of family and friends.



Ambassador

Kate Campigotto of North Dunwich impressed the judges and was crowned the Wallacetown Fair Ambassador Friday night, after a skill testing question.



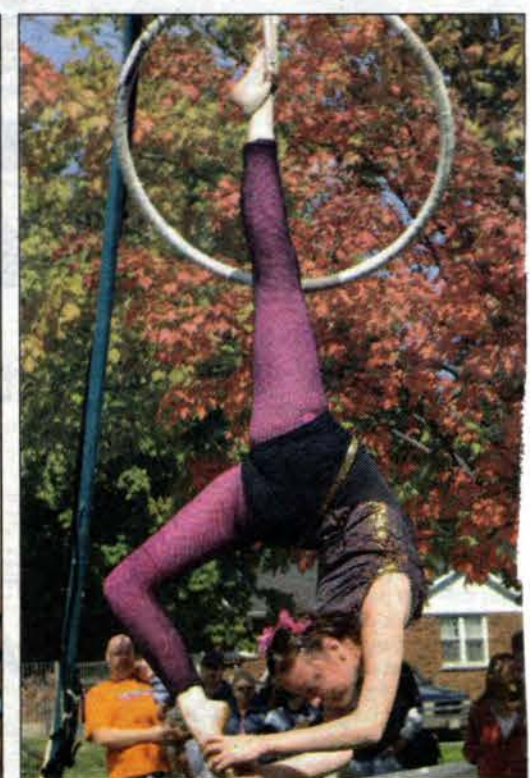
Pixies

Nicole Concannan and her dog Sandy represented the Pixies in the Pet Show Friday night. The theme of the fair was Pirates and Pixies.



Deal Arr No Deal

Wallacetown Fair President Joe Mylrea hosted, along with Dan McKillop, Deal ARR No Deal, a game of chance, with a \$1,000 prize, Friday night.



Aerobatics

Tinsel" from aerial group Aerial Angels from Casamaso Michigan demonstrating the aerial hoop Saturday. Her group also performed fire eating on the midway.

Wallacetown Fair

Margaret Gruenbauer, and Marilyn Fleck. Brittany Eichenberger crowned Kate as the new Ambassador and thanked everyone for her "indescribable year" as Wallacetown Fair Ambassador.

After the Ambassador competition was announced, it was time to play another round of Deal Arr No Deal! With \$1921 remaining in the pot, it was surprisingly difficult to find a contestant that was still in attendance. Jeremy Giles, Carolyn Striker, and Tracy Gordon were all called to the stage, but were unfortunately missing in action. The fourth name drawn was Sharon White. Sharon's first pick was case #3. Her subsequent picks were #2 (\$1000) (arrrrrr, luck 'o the game), #10 (\$150), and #1 (\$10), and the banker's first offer was \$60. NO DEAL! Chest #12 contained the \$750, and #7 was a lucky pick, indeed, with \$1. The banker's second offer was \$61. Deal? NO DEAL! Chest #4 had the \$5 ticket, and the banker replied with a \$70 offer. NO DEAL! #6 had the \$250, and the banker offered \$60. NO DEAL! (Are you beginning to see a pattern?!) Chest #8 had the \$500 ticket, to which the banker replied with the not-so-generous



Cap'n Joe Mylrea - President of the Wallacetown Agricultural Society and host of Deal "ARR" No Deal offers up \$70 to a contestant at the 2007 Wallacetown Fair. *jcrawford/HORIZON*

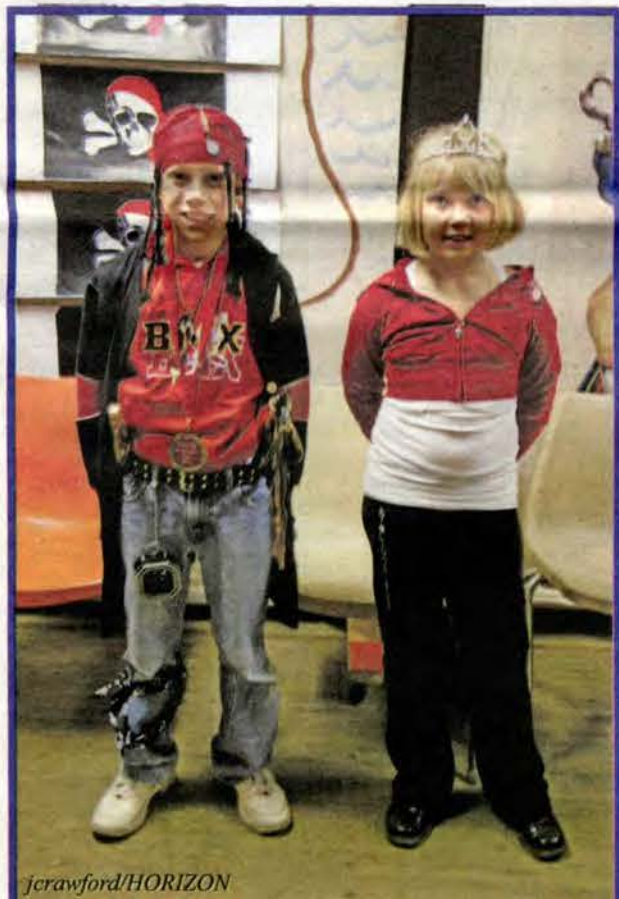
offer of \$32. NO DEAL! Chest #5 was selected next, holding the lucky penny. The banker upped his offer to \$50...and again, NO DEAL! Finally, box #9 was opened, containing \$25, and the banker ponied up an \$80 offer, which White accepted.

Sharon drew for next contestant. The first two names out of the treasure chest were Janice Fay and Karen Davey, who were unfortunately not in attendance. The third time was a charm, and Connie Rose was next up. Her first pick was chest #4, and then #10 (\$1), #2 (\$10), and #6 (\$5). Third time was a charm, indeed!

The banker's first offer to Rose was \$100, to which she replied NO DEAL! The next chest was #12 (\$250), and #8 (\$100), and the banker's offer was \$125. Arrr, scallywag, guess what's next? NO DEAL! #5 was next, containing \$50 - the banker then offered \$250 - NOOOOO DEAL! #3 was chosen next, containing the lucky penny... and the banker's offer was a nice chunk of change at \$500. DEAL!

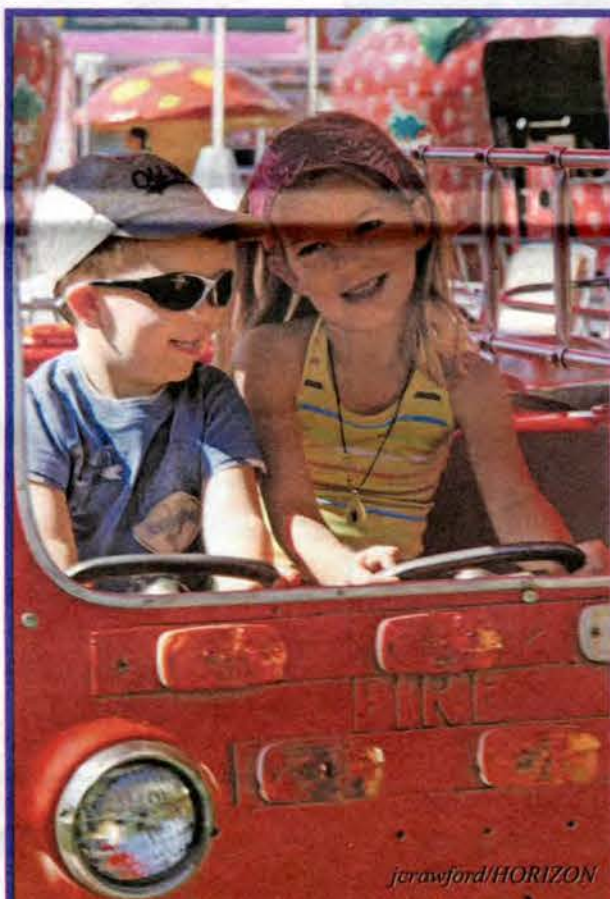
Trish Sutton was drawn next. Her first pick was #6, and then #10 (\$5), #8 (\$100), and #7 (\$10). The banker offered her \$95... NO DEAL! She then picked cases containing \$1 and \$50, and the banker offered \$250 - NO DEAL! Chest #3 was then chosen, containing \$500 and leading to an offer of \$200, which was denied. She then selected a chest containing \$250, and was offered \$250 in return. NO DEAL! Chest #11 was the last to be chosen, and at \$25, it led to a \$450 offer, which Sutton took. It was a wise move indeed, for her first chosen chest (#6) only contained a penny!

Congratulations to all the winners, and a big thank you to everyone who put so much of their time and effort into planning out such an entertaining evening. The opening of the 147th Wallacetown fair surely did not disappoint! *jloos/HORIZON*



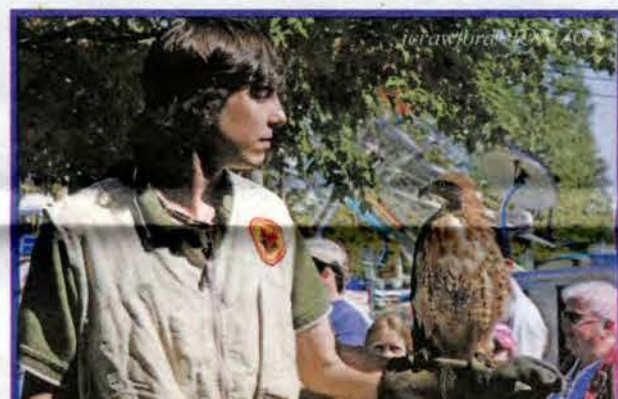
jcrawford/HORIZON

This year's Pirate and Pixie (Prince and Princess) winners were Kyle Page (L) and Lexxi Langs



jcrawford/HORIZON

Brayden and sister Amber enjoy the rides on the midway at the 2007 Wallacetown Fair.



Handler Luke shows off the red-tailed hawk during the "Birds of Prey" exhibit at the 2007 Wallacetown Fair.



4 month old "Jacob" the lion cub was a favourite of many at the petting zoo at the 2007 Wallacetown Fair.



Rob and Kelly Milligan stop at the concession booth to indulge in the sweet tastes of the 2007 Wallacetown Fair. *jcrawford/HORIZON*



A crowd favourite this year was the "Aerial Angels" from Kalamazoo Michigan. M.A. Harrison (aka Tinsel), Moira Lee (aka Peanut), and Zay Weaver (aka Spike) put on a great show of aerial gymnastics coupled with fire eating. The Aerial Angels performed three shows throughout the day on Saturday at the 2007 Wallacetown Fair. *jcrawford/HORIZON*

147th Annual

“Everywhere you look...pirates everywhere. Just like the house of commons,” MPP Joe Preston said to a crowd of all ages, decked out in eye patches, long scraggly wigs, vests and swords. And so the 147th Wallacetown fair began, on the evening of Friday, September 28th, 2007. MP Steve Peters followed Preston with a hearty “Arrr!” and a “Ahoy” to Wallacetown. Mayor Bonnie Vowel greeted the crowd and 2006-2007 Wallacetown Fair Ambassador Brittany Eichenburger officially opened the fair, as this year’s Ambassador contestants took the stage.

The Ambassador contest was followed by “Deal Arrr No Deal”, a game modeled after the popular “Deal or No Deal” TV game show. Wallacetown’s version of the game included 12 “chest holders” who arrived at the stage via the ship “The Black Pearl”. Contestants first had to choose three “chests”, and then the banker would propose a “deal” to them. If they did not take this deal, they would choose two more chests, and then would be proposed another offer. After the second offer, cases were selected one by one, with offers in between.



Dutton Dunwich Mayor Bonnie Vowel(L) and M.P.P. Elgin-Middlesex-London, Steve Peters were among the dignitaries at the opening ceremonies of the 147th annual Wallacetown Fair. *gkelly/HORIZON*



Emcee Dan McKillop (L) with Contestant #1 - Guy Lamb during Deal “ARR” No Deal, friday night at the 2007 Wallacetown Fair. *jcrawford/HORIZON*

First up was Wallacetown resident Guy Lamb. His first “chest” was number 6. His other picks were #1 (which contained \$1000), #11 (\$100), and #8 (\$10). Mr. Lamb took the banker’s first offer of \$70.

Secondly, Kathy Minnema took the stage. Her first pick was #5, and then #10 (\$500), #3 (\$1000), and then #12 (\$750). When asked how she was doing, Mrs. Minnema’s children replied with a emphatic “NOT GOOD!”, and



The ruthless “Banker”, high atop the ship in the crows nest lowered offers to the contestants in the Deal “ARR” No Deal game at the 2007 Wallacetown Fair. *jcrawford/HORIZON*

her first offer was \$22, to which she replied “NO DEAL!”. After that, Minnema picked chest #9 (\$50), and #4 (\$250). Her kids were then torn on the issue - one saying, “Don’t accept it!” and the other, “Accept it!”. The banker then offered her \$13, and again it was NO DEAL! Chest #6 was her next pick, containing a lucky \$5, to which the banker replied with an offer of \$35. NO DEAL! Chest #1 was then chosen, containing \$25. The bank offer was then raised to \$50, and can you guess? NO DEAL! She then selected chest #7 (\$10), which raised the bank offer to \$75... and still... NO DEAL! Chest #2 was next, and inside it was \$100. The banker replied with a \$30 offer, and it was again...NO DEAL! Number 11 was next, containing \$150. The banker replied with a modest offer of 50 cents, which Mrs. Minnema was quick to decline. Her final “NO DEAL” was a good choice, and she escaped the ship with \$1.

Sponsored by the Wallacetown Optimist Club, Kate Campigotto was the first to take the microphone. Her question was, “If you were in charge of advertising for the fair, what features would you include?”. She answered that she would include agriculture, which is the basis for the fair, and that we should celebrate our rural roots. The advertising, she reasoned, should cater to the population of the community, and she mentioned that her personal favourites at the fair include the horses, tractor pull, and barrel racing. She would promote the fair to the youth, and “sell it how it is every year... everyone having a good time.”



Kate Campigotto, Wallacetown Fair 2007 Ambassador Contestant. *jcrawford/HORIZON*

Dan Sutton was up next, sponsored by the Wallacetown Women’s Institute. His question was, “How important do you feel it is for people to cast their vote, and why?” Sutton answered that voting is very important, so that people can choose leadership on their personal opinion and so that the government is represented by the majority of everyone’s opinion.



Dan Sutton, Wallacetown Fair 2007 Ambassador Contestant. *jcrawford/HORIZON*

The last Ambassador contestant was April Kornaker, who was sponsored by the Dutton and District Lions Club. Her question was, “What is the single largest difficulty that you feel faces the agricultural society?”, to which she answered that the biggest problems lie in getting things together and organized so that everything runs smoothly. She also



April Kornaker, Wallacetown Fair 2007 Ambassador Contestant. *jcrawford/HORIZON*

mentioned volunteers, and that everything comes together when everyone participates.



(L-R) Anna Tokarz - Wallacetown Agricultural Society, Marg Gruenbauer - Judge, Marylin Fleck - Judge, Melanie Chase - Judge, Kate Campigotto - 2007/08 Wallacetown Fair Ambassador, Brittany Eichenberger - Outgoing 2006/07 Wallacetown Fair Ambassador. *jcrawford/HORIZON*

After the first two games of Deal Arrr No Deal, the Ambassador winner was announced to be Kate Campigotto. Everyone did a great job answering their questions and no doubt put a lot of hard work and effort into the competition. A hearty “arrrrr!” to Kate, April, and Dan for all of their hard work --- you all did great! The judges for the competition were Melanie Chase,

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