



Harvey Milton Miller is celebrating his 100th Birthday on December 3, 2002. Come celebrate with us on November 30, 2002 at the Bobier Villa, Dutton, Ontario from 2 to 4pm. Best wishes only.

Nov 18/2002 The Chronicle

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Dutton, Ontario

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Best Wishes Only

Harvey Miller turns 100 amongst a lot of friends and family

Well known resident, teacher, insurance agent, organist, and family man Harvey Miller was honoured November 30th for his ongoing contributions at this 100th birthday.

Hundreds came to visit Miller at the Bobier Villa throughout the day and his daughter, Marilyn Rumble, said she was very pleased with the turnout of people who wished Harvey a happy birthday.

Rumble had set up many photos and mementos for viewing to bring back people's memories but also exhibit her father's illustrious life.

Well wishes came from local politicians including Dutton/Dunwich Mayor Rien Van Brenk, MPP Steve Peters, West Elgin Mayor Duncan McPhail and Elgin Warden John Wilson.

During a ceremony, others expressed their greetings and honours towards Miller, including Keith Kelly (former neighbour at New Glasgow and former student of Miller),

Andy Cipu (of IOOF Lodge and good friend), Bernard Toth (former student of Miller and now Small Claims Court Judge).

Master of Ceremonies was Reverend Andrew and Loetta Brndjar from Tillsonburg.

While as a teacher, Miller touched many people's lives in West Elgin. He taught at Kerr Public School from 1923-26, New Glasgow School from 1926-34, and was Principal of Rodney Public School from 1934-1953.

He was also a president of the West Elgin Teacher's Association.

After teaching, he became a General Insurance Agent from 1931 to 1974. In 1974 he became an Excelsior Life Agent from 1927 to 1986. He retired at the age of 86 after almost sixty years in the insurance business!

Miller has spent many years donating time towards numerous service clubs over the years including: Past President of the Rodney Library, Past President of

Elgin County Library Association, Past President of Aldborough Old Boys' Association and Past President of Rodney Kiwanis Club.

He was also Past Lieutenant Governor of Kiwanis, Past DDGM of Rodney IOOF Lodge, and musically he was organist of Churchville then Calvary

EUB Church for 50 years. He was also accompanist of Churchville Men's Octette for 20 years.

Rumble said people will forever know her father through education, insurance and music locally because of one major thing:

"People always came to him because they trust him," she said.

"He always went on a handshake," she added. It is these qualities that have always made him

She said her father is also a favourite in the community. known for his dedication and



Marilyn Rumble with her much beloved father Harvey Miller who celebrated his 100th birthday on December 3.

Rodney Ont
Nov 1/02

Dear Sir:

Re: Harvey Miller's 100th
Birthday: Nov 30/02 celebration

Born in Aldborough Dec 3/02
attended - Kerr School, Rodney
Public, and continuation School.
London and Stratford Normal
School.

taught - Kerr School - 1923-26
New Glasgow School 1926-34

Principal Rodney P.S. 1934-1953

General Insurance Agent Part time -
1931-1953

Full time 1953-1974

Excelsior Life agent 1927-1986
* * * *

Post President of the following:

West Elgin Teachers' Association
Ontario Motor League (Elgin Branch)

Rodney Library

Elgin County Library Association
Aldborough Old Boys Association

(2)

Rodney Kwanis Club

Past Lieut. Governor of Kwanis
Past D. D. G. M. of Rodney I.O.O.F.
Organist Evangelical Church 50 yrs

I also included an invitation
for you, and your wife, and family.

Rev. Andy Brodja, is our M.C. for
Dad's special birthday, they have
been special friends for many yrs.
I am not sure of the exact time
for the speeches, but I do hope
you will be well entertained,
since we will have live music,
with food, and drinks in Harvey
Miller style.

Please come & enjoy, Thanking you

Sincerely

Maureen Rumble

RR#2 Rodney Ont.

tel - 785-0920

The Story of the Blue Gown



Dance of a lifetime

June 1, 2002

It was a time when everyone was a monarchist. It was a time when St. Thomas was but a small village. It was a time when young women dreamed of princes. It was a time when a dream came true and started a legend.

The Prince of Wales was making a goodwill tour of British North America. The eldest son of Queen Victoria and eventually becoming King George V, the 18-year-old prince was the most eligible bachelor in the British Empire. A dance was to be held in the region, a social spectacle never seen in these parts of the country. A structure was built to hold the event in London, Ont., a large addition to the Tecumseh House.



The tickets were sold at a price that made the event unreachable for most in 1860 — \$10 a couple and \$5 more to take a second woman with you, such as your daughter. The who's who people planned the event and a dance card was prepared for the prince, so those most worthy would get a dance with him.

Mr. Eltham Paul, a prominent St. Thomas businessman, decided that he and his daughter should attend the ball even though she was not to be on the prince's dance card. Mr. Paul hired Miss Cornella Brown to construct a gown and to spare no expense.

The result was a pale blue gown made of silk taffeta with an overlay of white tulle, featuring a basque waist with a bertha collar edged with delicate lace and a decorative neckline. The bodice and shoulders were graced with a corsage of flowers with clusters of seed pearls sewn in. Even though it was made for Susan Paul's 18-inch waist, the crinoline skirt measured 4 1/2 yards in circumference. As well, a matching comb was to be worn in Susan's brilliant red hair. Susan would have been a most stunning belle at the ball.

Dance 18, the waltz "Nachtwandler," started and it is not known exactly how but legend has that the prince took Susan as his part-

ner because the next girl on the dance card was not there. After the dance the prince escorted Susan back to her father and then presented her with a feather from his cap, an honour unequalled the rest of the evening.

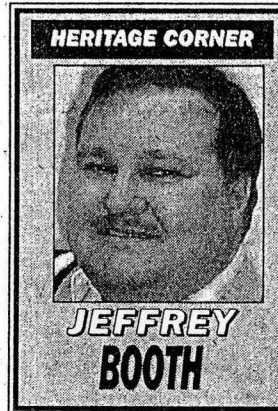
Susan lived out her life in St. Thomas never marrying but being active in many fields and before her death in 1925 she turned over the gown to the Elgin Historical Society. For many years

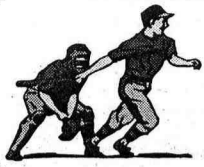
the gown went on loan to the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, where it was deemed to be the best example of mid Victorian crinoline that has ever been exhibited there. With the opening of the local Pioneer Museum in the 1950s, the gown returned to St. Thomas.

Recently the Blue Gown has underwent restoration and been saved from loss. The Elgin Historical Society has given the gown to be a permanent part of the museum holdings and a special display has been constructed to show it.

For all those readers out there who are monarchists, interested in legends, or dreaming of a prince, venture over to the Pioneer Museum and experience the Blue Gown, preserved for your enjoyment.

Heritage Corner is a weekly column designed to tell local heritage stories by local history expert Jeff Booth, St. Thomas.





SPORTS



25 years of cross border soccer

WALLACETOWN & CUYAHOGA FALLS RECALL BEGINNINGS OF TOURNAMENT

by Keith Peever
The Chronicle

It was either going to be baseball or soccer. That was the decision to be faced back in 1976 after a successful visit between Wallacetown Optimists and Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio Breakfast Optimists. The two clubs had just met in Arkona, Ohio on March 28, 1976 after a proposal of twinning had brought them together.

G.F. "Bud" Lundstrom of Cuyahoga Falls Optimists recalls those initial meetings went very well and the fellowship soccer tournament was born out of the camaraderie and friendships of the two clubs, which he said still exists today.

Lundstrom credits Norm Shipley of St. Thomas who was the International President of the Optimist Club at the time, for suggesting twinning Wallacetown and Cuyahoga Falls.

Gary Kalita was President of the Wallacetown Optimists then. The first games of the exchange were held August 12-15, 1977.

Twenty five years later the International Soccer Exchange is continuing to grow with evidence appearing last weekend during the annual tournament, which was held in Wallacetown this year.

"It could have been baseball or soccer. We wanted to do something for the kids," recalled John McIntyre, one of the original Wallacetown Optimist who helped kick off the annual tournament back in 1977.

McIntyre and current Dutton/Dunwich mayor Rien Van Brenk started soccer in Wallacetown three years prior and they both felt the sport would work well in Wallacetown as Dutton had a baseball program.

Today both soccer programs in Wallacetown and Cuyahoga Falls



Gathered for the 25th Annual International Soccer Exchange between Wallacetown and Cuyahoga Falls Ohio are back row, l-r, Hal Wilson (Cuyahoga Falls Optimists), Bud Lundstrom (Cuyahoga Falls Optimists), Norm Kempel (Cuyahoga Falls Optimists), John McIntyre (Wallacetown Optimists), Bob Nissel (Cuyahoga Falls Optimists). In front Jacob Scott Earnest (Cuyahoga Falls player) on Tracy Trudell's knee (Wallacetown Soccer) and Rene Forgues (Wallacetown player) on Sheila Kalita's knee (Wallacetown Soccer). Lundstrom, Kempel and McIntyre are original members behind the International Soccer Exchange.

continue to grow in size and popularity. This year over 210 players are registered for Wallacetown soccer.

Lundstrom said he has never missed one tournament in the entire 25 years and he enjoys seeing international friendships develop between the young players.

Flags and other mementoes were handed out between players and adults over the weekend.

A special t-shirt was also designed for the event, with this year's design being made by 11 year old Troy Cook of Dutton.

The weekend was not entirely spent playing soccer. The kids also camped together along Lake Erie at Camp Littlejohn and had a pork roast on Saturday night.

Twenty five years ago the first exchange between Wallacetown and Cuyahoga Falls was considered to be the very first youth soccer competition in North America.

Organizers said the kids were very well behaved and had great fun during the entire weekend.

Dutton youth designs winning tourney t-shirt



Troy Cook holds up one of the t-shirts he helped to design for the 25th Annual International Soccer Exchange held in Wallacetown August 2-4. Also holding the t-shirt is Wallacetown Soccer executive member Rob Willson. The t-shirts went to every soccer player who participated in the tournament.

The Chronicle