

# Kolar teaching Black Arts at new Dojo in West Lorne, rare fighting style taught by few around the world

Jim and Kate Kolar aren't starting an army of martial arts experts, but their new dojo in West Lorne is preparing a lot of residents for the worst the streets can bring.

The West Lorne family's company Security Training Solutions has been giving self defence training and teaching various martial arts programs in the village since 2003 and has now opened up a Dojo on Graham Road in the downtown core.

When Jim returned from serving with Canadian Forces in Afghanistan earlier this year, he wanted to expand his lessons from a dozen students twice a week at

St. Mary's Catholic School.

Renting space in one building, immediately Kolar found more people interested in learning.

Now almost 40 people take lessons and train with the company three nights a week in two store fronts.

Kolar won't stop there, he hopes to add more lessons during the evening in the new year and eventually hopes to be open during the day.

In January, Bill Hill will begin teaching Tai-chi at the Dojo.

Kolar taught martial arts to the military while in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Kolar is one test away from becoming

only the third person in the world to be a grand master in the Black Arts.

The Black Arts Society is a martial arts system developed by Grandmaster Gus Michalik at the army regiment in London.

It combines the best of many martial arts streaming mainly from Hap Ki Do, Kenpo and Ju-jit-su.

It's a basic self defence system teaching simple movements in combinations with touching pressure points.

Kolar said martial arts are still competitive like a sport but as it has become more popular in sport, the art and meaning of the movements have been lost.

He said knowing pressure points on the body is not incorporated in many martial arts classes but knowing how to manipulate them is the most effective mode of self defence.

"We don't like fighting," he said, adding it doesn't have much of a practical use here in western Elgin County.

However, he said



**Youngsters learning Black Arts and self defence**

CONTRIBUTED

Tanner Lamb and Austin Arn practice grappling and take downs during a youth course held at the new Security Training Solution's Dojo in West Lorne. While kids mostly get to play around and learn basic martial arts, the new Dojo has many different styles of teaching available including the Black Arts, a rare style focussing on manipulating pressure points.

crime in London is up 75 per cent, and criminals often use weapons, particularly a knife.

His training teaches people how to defend themselves from a knife wielding assailant by grabbing people at a pressure point and disarming them.

Security Training Solutions and Kolar have already trained

police forces and army regiments and in the new year will begin training more Canadian Forces all over the world in Black Arts.

Jim is a black belt in seven different styles and Kate is a black belt in four.

Once a black belt is obtained, the belt holder can begin teaching others.

Kolar hopes to

have many black belts helping at training courses in coming months.

Many students have advanced quickly and satellite Dojos could be in operation in neighbouring villages withing 2006.

Kolar is filling the Dojo with equipment from weapons to exercize machines.

A part of teaching

martial arts is physical fitness.

If students aren't interested in taking tests and earning different belts, they can come and get a good work out.

"When people have come here, they don't leave," said Kate.

Doing hundreds of jumping jacks, Kolar's programs have become a suc-

cessful method of exercise, he said.

For the youth coming, he is prepared to train students to become the next Tae Kwon Do Olympic Champions.

Some students are already prepared to compete in an upcoming tournament in London in January.

Students also learn discipline and are given homework assignments to make sure they continue to learn the principles of close quarter combat.

As well, the youths learn self-confidence and self-esteem.

"They can learn not to be afraid of anyone," he said.

In the past the Kolars have also given lessons as part of the YWCA drop in clinics in Rodney and Dutton.

Right now, family lessons are available Monday nights, followed by advanced courses.

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 pm. kids get lessons and adult lessons follow.

For more information, call the Kolars at 870-3998.

## Mitsubishi visits world known biooil plant in West Lorne

Jeff Kempenaar  
Staff

West Lorne is known all over the world now for production of biooil.

Engineers and investors from all over the globe have given attention to the West Lorne BioOil Cogenerational Facility.

And in the next few weeks the plant will be able to produce biooil consistently, 24-hours a day.

It's been a long road, with planning having started five years ago, to ground being broken two years ago and the deadline for completion passing one year ago.

But the future for the world's first commercialized fast pyrolysis system, which creates biooil from wood waste, has a long road ahead.

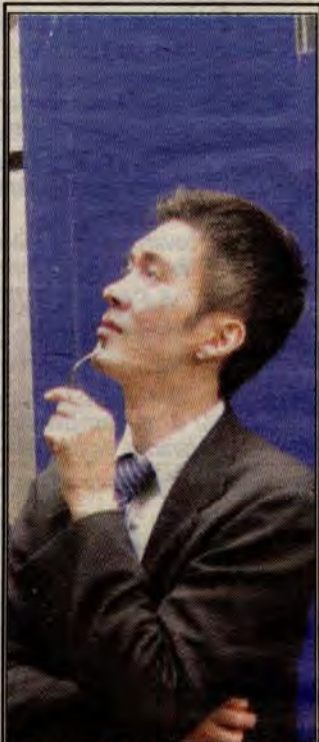
"West Lorne is the biooil capital of the world," pronounced Jorge Kawaguchi a director with Tecna, a Argentinien-based energy company.

He's seen the plant progress from start to its now near finish.

And now he has begun designing a larger version of the plant to be built in Toronto to turn garbage into fuel.

The \$20 million West Lorne plant has been developed and built by Dynamotive Energy Systems of Vancouver with assistance from the federal government and partners.

The fast pyrolysis system developed almost 10 years ago and 10 years later, the first commercial plant has been built here in West Lorne.



JEFF KEMPENAAR/THE CHRONICLE

### Mitsubishi visits

One of many businesses and foreign governments to visit the West Lorne BioOil Cogenerational plant was Mitsubishi two weeks ago. Kenici Mizoguchi, of the company's world wide plant business, travelled from the Japanese headquarters to see the plant.

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## Women At Work

Imagine being able to prioritize what is important to you as a woman, and work your own business around those priorities. Mary Kay Ash prioritized Faith, Family and Career and that philosophy continues to be supported as the company continues to grow.

Working as an Independent Beauty Consultant for Mary Kay Cosmetics can provide that flexibility for today's woman. Wendy Vergeer of Rodney has started her own business with Mary Kay that allows her to work around her personal priorities and a full time job.

"I'm in business for myself but not by myself. Mary Kay offers a sisterhood where we all care about each other's success," said Wendy.

Mary Kay offers a complete line of skin care and cosmetic products as well as body care, fragrance, and even products for men and teens.

With the company's "Try Before You Buy" policy, customer satisfaction is 100 per cent guaranteed.

Mary Kay has been rated the #1 brand of skin care and colour cosmetics in the U.S. for the last 13 years and is also known as one of the highest paying direct sales companies.

There are no quotas and the territory for marketing is Canada. Since beginning Mary Kay last October,

Wendy has been learning under the guidance of her Unit Director, Shannon Shaffer of St. Thomas. Shannon is an Executive Sales Director who has been with Mary Kay for 13 years. She is a dynamic young mom making an executive income, and drives the prestigious Mary Kay trade mark, the pink cadillac and is currently ranked fifth in Canada. "She is incredible at what she does and wants to share her knowledge with those who want to learn from her," said Wendy. "You have to look to those who are where you want to be for advice and listen!"



Wendy Vergeer

Mary Kay Consultants are trained to know the importance of customer service.

"I have been involved with Customer Service in different aspects all my life," said Wendy. "Today's consumer demands it. I truly value my clients and want to provide the best product and the best service around. Mary Kay offers the product, I offer the service-100% guaranteed!"

Anyone interested in learning more about Mary Kay or would like to try the products can contact Wendy at 785-2015 or on her web site - www.marykay.ca/wvergeer. Mention that you saw this article when you contact her and your name will go into a draw for a gift certificate for Mary Kay products.



## Farmers open tap and grill in West Lorne



KEMPENAAR/THE CHRONICLE  
**Tap and Grill opens**  
Darlene and Dale Jones of the Dutton area opened Jonezee's, a tap and grill in West Lorne last month.

Owners of Fingal Farm Supply have opened Jonezee's Tap and Grill on Main Street West Lorne.

Darlene and Dale Jones have mixed emotions after their opening night June 18.

While they were excited and tired from serving drinks and food to more than 200 people the Saturday night, an altercation in front of their business left a sour taste the next day.

"It was so busy in here and everything was going really well," said Darlene.

However one man, who had been drinking in the new restaurant went on a rampage, tearing benches out of the sidewalk along Main Street.

"It was the worse thing that could have happened. We don't want to get a reputation where things like that happen here," said Darlene.

While police are still looking for the man, he won't be allowed back in

Jonezee's ever again.

Though the rough start is behind them, Darlene knew it would be difficult opening a bar in West Lorne.

Aside from that, she knew there was a need and demand for grilled food and alcoholic beverages with meals.

"I've been asking our customers what they did before they came here and they said they 'went to St. Thomas or London'," she said. "People want to get good food and a drink nearby."

The couple have a lot of experience with restaurants having operated Cookers in St. Thomas for about 11 years.

Jonezee's features a variety of appetizers, entrees, desserts and an extensive drink list.

The large kitchen area features a grill to charbroil the homemade burgers.

The couple has made large financial invest-

ments to improve the building which had been empty for about three years.

The tap and grill has a sports theme with a huge T.V. screen, smaller T.V.s around the restaurant, pool tables and arcade games.

Also, a large dance floor, full on opening night, is located at the back of the main room beside the jukebox.

A booth for the DJ, who performs Friday and Saturday nights' is beside the dance floor.

The Jones', who farm near Dutton, hope the restaurant is a success in the long-term where entertainment will be featured regularly.

Jonezee's can host work parties or other special events.

They are open 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Tuesdays to Thursdays, 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays and Sundays 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

## Turbines fired at biooil facility

Jeff Kempenaar  
Staff

Turbines were fired to generate power for the first time at the biooil plant, bringing the plant one step closer to completion.

Tom Lamb, chief engineer at West Lorne BioOil Co-generational Ltd. reported on the progress of the project garnering attention from around the world at the annual general meeting for the West Elgin Community Health Centre June 22.

While engineers have had headaches trying to complete the plant, Lamb is sure the use of oil created from wood waste to generate electricity will take off around the world.

The plant is the only one in the world of its size and is hoped to become a way to create energy without emitting greenhouse gases and other pollutants.

Lamb, who is also the chief engineer for Erie Flooring and Wood Products, a partner in the co-generational facility, said changes to the way wood is burned at Erie Flooring has reduced the amount of black smoke and soot coming from the plant in the last few months.

Although Lamb wouldn't say when the plant would be completed, he said the stack which has poured black smoke over the village for years would not be used anymore.

The project has reached costs of anywhere from \$16 million to \$40 million, Lamb has heard.

The parent company, Dynamotive from Vancouver has covered the brunt of the investment in the project with share-

holders anxiously watching around the world.

"We as humans have done things to damage the environment; not intentionally. But through knowledge we are learning to correct what we have done," said Lamb. "This project will be a great asset to the environment."

He boasted this plant will stop the eye soar of black smoke billowing over West Lorne.

Lamb, who spent 30 years with the Canadian Navy as an engineer said working with stubborn sawdust has been the biggest problem at the plant.

The plant has been contracted to produce 100 tonnes per day of biooil from the sawdust produced at Erie Flooring.

Currently machines within the plant are not the right size to create that much biooil and are planned to be refitted.

The turbine, fired over the weekend, will produce 12,000 pounds of steam for Erie Flooring.

Dynamotive Energy Systems, a company from Vancouver funding the project said the turbine performs as good as a diesel turbine.

For the first time the turbine created electricity sent back to the provincial grid.

The turbines will eventually create 2.5 megawatts of electricity to run the plant, Erie Flooring and up to 2,500 homes.

With the turbines being fired, it's a benchmark in the project which started last June and was originally supposed to be complete in one year.

Lamb said once the company gets this pyrolysis plant completed for the first time in a commercial setting, it will be able to reproduce the plants at varying scales within a one year production cycle.

Lamb, will be in charge of eight employees that will run the plant on an ongoing basis when it is completed.

He said Erie Flooring produces around 70 tonnes of saw dust a day.

The plant is hoped to turn that into four-and-a-half tonnes of biooil an hour.

Right now the plant is only able to process one-and-a-half tonnes because of problems with the movement of sawdust.

West Lorne has been put on the map with this project. Recently a minister of the environment from Russia toured the plant, said Lamb, a native of Wallacetown.

## New business expected to hire 60

Jeff Kempenaar  
Staff

While full production isn't expected to begin until May, wheels are turning at a new automotive industry in West Lorne.

TFT Global Inc. West Lorne Division moved into 215 Gilbert St. in July, 2004 and began shipping wheel assembly products to plants in the United States for testing earlier this year.

While full production is expected to start in May, nine employees have been hired to start the assembly line.

"We're anxious to get going," said Brian Sweetman, operations manager. "We have enough people to run the plant now but hope to have 60 on three shifts next year. It all depends on volume

(of demand)."

The jobs range from maintenance and office administration to supervisor positions.

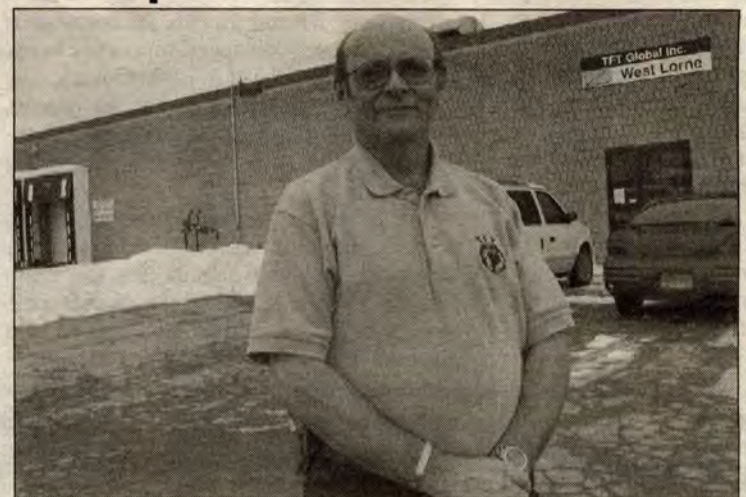
"We are a community based company and have found adequate skill levels in this area," said Sweetman.

He said 300 people applied to work at TFT Global, through West Elgin Support Services.

While going through resumes he has found lots of semi-skilled, qualified people flexible to work in any area of the plant in the future.

"We've got some good people here, with positive attitudes. We'll continue to hire in the community," he said.

Benefits and competitive salaries are being offered by the company, which is



JEFF KEMPENAAR/THE CHRONICLE

### TFT Global Inc. is set to begin full production in July

Brian Sweetman, operations manager at TFT Global Inc., West Lorne Division is optimistic about long-term operations planned by the company and the automotive industry.

based in Tillsonburg, Southfield goes bad," said Sweetman.

The West Lorne Michigan. Primarily, EQS and TFT Global had worked in sorting and containment of products on assembly lines in big automotive and aerospace plants.

TFT Global is a subsidiary of Efficient Quality Services of "Basically, we go in when something

Acting as a second tier producer, the West Lorne Division is the first production plant in TFT Global's portfolio.

It will assemble computerized wheel safety systems for Accuride in London,



# U.S. border opening to beef

► Protectionists may use second case of BSE to stop opening

Jeff Kempenaar  
Staff

Local beef farmers found some relief in last week's United States Department of Agriculture's announcement to open the border to live cattle under 30 months on Mar. 7.

"We're relieved it has gotten to this stage but until the first load of cattle crosses the border we can't be too confident," said Ian McKillop, local beef farmer and vice-president of the Ontario Cattlemen's Association.

Ontario cattle producers have lost \$450 million, after subsidies,

since May 20, 2003 when one case of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, or Mad Cow, was found in Alberta, closing the border.

New rules will allow all cattle under 30-months-old to go to U.S. feedlots or slaughterhouses.

Also, boneless meat from all cattle over 30 months from select breeds will be allowed across the border.

Currently boneless meat from cattle less than 30 months old is crossing the border.

The rules were created by the USDA and will be debated by

U.S. congress before March 7.

While McKillop was delighted with the announcement, he said protectionist groups will make a lot of noise to keep the border closed.

He worries that a second confirmed case of BSE in an eight-year-old Alberta dairy cow found last week could give the protectionists more ammunition in their fight to keep the border closed.

USDA officials were told about the new case before announcing the border opening.

McKillop said Canada has taken many measures to protect human

and animal health and Canada is considered a minimal risk country by world standards.

Minimal risk countries are allowed two cases of BSE for every million cows according to world standards.

The new case is in a cow, fed before 1997 when measures to stop ruminant to ruminant feeding were put in place, a cause of BSE.

Along with halting rendered animal meat being fed to the Canadian herd, Canada no longer imports cattle from the United Kingdom where BSE was found in the 1980s.

JAN 05

Please see Rural, page 2



## Congratulations

Cindy Jones Trudell and Jack Ripley of Ripley's Quality Home Care in West Lorne received the

### PLATINUM SALES AWARD

They are in the top 100 of 1,800 companies in Canada that sell NHB Cabinets  
**RIPLEY'S HOME CARE**  
768-1991 - 693-4511

## Local businesses win awards

Monte McNaughton, store manager of McNaughton Family Shopping Centre in Newbury, Ontario, was recently named Young Retailer of the Year in the over \$2 million sales category. He was the only Canadian to win the award. The 2005 Young Retailer of the Year program, which is coordinated by the North American Retail Hardware Association, recognizes outstanding achievement by six hardware retailers age 35 and younger.

While Newbury is a town of just 402 residents, McNaughton's has drawn traffic from larger cities, all of which have large home

centers. To help bring in more customers, McNaughton, 28, obtained an M&M Meat Shops franchise that sells frozen meats as well as vegetables, desserts and prepared meals. In 2004, he opened a Beer Store and a Liquor Control Board of Ontario Agency store. Having these two additional businesses has given people in his town, as well as neighboring towns, more reasons to shop in his store.

In the past year, McNaughton has helped create tremendous growth in some of the basic categories the store offers such as kitchen cabinet sales. In addition, he has significantly expanded his flooring department to include all of the major flooring types and installation. Sales in that department have grown dramatically. Other strong departments for McNaughton include appliances, paint and automotive.

While McNaughton's business building has been successful, he continues to seek the advice and wisdom of others. The store has conducted focus groups with customers and industry professionals to see what new products they should be stocking in their store.

Monte will be traveling to Colorado in July to accept his award at the North American Retail Hardware Association's annual convention.

### Ripley's wins sales award

With less than three years as a team under their belts and competing against more than 1,800 stores in Canada, Jack Ripley and Cindy Jones Trudell were recognized as Platinum Sales Award Winners by the cabinet distributor company Can-Save.

The recognition places the duo, operating from Ripley's Quality Home Centre

in West Lorne in the top 100 of all the Canadian stores retailing NHB cabinets manufactured in Peterborough.

Can-Save recognized and awarded the team at their product expo in Barrie two weeks ago.

"You have to believe in your design and your products," said Cindy who has been designing kitchens for several years prior to their merging.

She operates Creative Designs by Cindy Jones Trudell as an interior designer and Jack owns Ripley Quality Home Centre.

In partnership with the two ventures they design and retail cabinets, countertops and all other materials required for any interior renovation.

Jack said, "It is an impressive honour to have been able to receive an award for our efforts."

"With hard work and determination look at what you can achieve," said Cindy.

# Burned complex to get roof first

Jeff Kempenaar  
Staff

Building a new roof over the West Elgin Community Complex is the first rebuilding step.

Cowan Insurance was getting everything out of the building last week and looking at getting a roof for the entire complex.

Design changes to the building are being prepared but a new roof is needed to keep the weather out.

Everything within the brick walls will be gutted and the bricks will be treated for smoke damage.

"The insurance company

wouldn't put \$1 million into a building that still smelled like smoke," said Administrator Joanne Groch.

Redesigns were called a necessity at council Feb. 23.

Some changes include; changing trusses and floor joints so the roof could stand without wall supports.

As well, adding a second exit to the basement would be designed to allow the basement to be used for meetings as was planned when it was built in 1994.

At that time, the building wasn't big enough to need a

second exit, said Coun. Mike Mooser.

Over time, fire code changes required a second exit and the basement could no longer be used for meetings.

Council discussed finishing the basement but Groch said it may cost the municipality extra.

Insurance will cover up to \$1 million to rebuild the complex to the state it was before the fire.

"This is an opportunity to design the building to be a useful space for the community," said Mayor Graham Warwick.



Taking out rubble

JEFF KEMPENAAR/THE CHRONICLE

Justin Elgie of London walks through what was the community meeting room towards the kitchen at the West Lorne Community Complex which was gutted by fire Feb. 16. Hickman Mount of London continues to clean out the rubble in the building.



# Trucks could be moved off of Munroe Street

■ Complaints of noise and tree damage taken to council

JEFF KEMPENAAR

staff

West Elgin council is looking for a new place for local truck drivers to park their transports in West Lorne.

Trucks are currently being parked along a gravel lot on Munroe St. adjacent to a series of trees that were planted as part of a Millennium project established for 2000 celebrations.

Fred Kirshner, who lives on Munroe St. and other concerned West Lorne residents went to council June 10 with a complaint about one driver backing his trailer into one of the trees.

"We are looking very seriously at the lot behind the health centre," said West Elgin Mayor Graham Warwick. "They would be out-of-sight and not be an annoyance to the health centre."

Warwick said he has told the road superintendent to expedite drainage and gravel work needed in the lot so transports can be moved from the



JEFF KEMPENAAR/CHRONICLE

## TRUCKS COULD MOVE

Trucks parked along Munroe St. in West Lorne could be moved to the lot near the West Elgin Community Health Centre after complaints of noise and tree damage.

Munroe St. lot, owned by CN Railroad.

Shaun Dowling, who also lives on Munroe said: "They shouldn't even be allowed to park here in the core."

Dowling said he has been awakened repeatedly during the night by the crashing of trucks dropping trailers, and idling truck engines. "It was so bad. To have diesel fumes in the yard and 20 trucks parked there."

Warwick said the lot behind the health centre could hold about a dozen trailers.

"I have nothing

against the drivers," said Downing. "It's poor town planning to have it on railroad property."

Kids have been seen playing on the trailers that have been parking on the lot for more than seven years. More transports are parking there now, said Downing. "I can't cope with it anymore."

"They pose more hazards than noise and smell," said Dr. John McKishnie who added, the exhaust for the trucks could cause problems from asthmatics. "They should park out of town, away from

where people live." One local driver, Jeremy Vojin, from Eagle, said most of the drivers that park their trailers there are considerate. He said he always turned his refrigerated trailer off so the noise wouldn't bother neighbours.

"We don't allow reefers to run in Rodney or West Lorne," said Warwick.

"What are you supposed to do with an 82-ft trailer?" said Vojin. "There are some ignorant odd balls who just

back up without paying attention."

Vojin has been parking his trailer in West Lorne for three years and drives his truck home to Eagle. "Just watch your back end." Vojin suggested.

Warwick said one driver threatened to sue the municipality if parking was taken away. Transporters began parking at the Munroe St. lot when council told them not to park on village streets.



Irene Puddester, left, and Rosalie Krebsz, right, serve up cake at Miller Park in West Lorne for Canada Day. Hundreds of people enjoyed games, music and fireworks.



SUBMITTED

Rylie Hunt, from Dutton, left, Brianna Morley, West Lorne, centre and Trina Lusse, West Lorne, right.

## West Lorne and Dutton riders win again

At the last dressage show of the season, held on Oct. 24 2004 at the DeRegt's farm in Melbourne, area riders were successful.

In the junior sections:

Brianna Morley riding Custom Blend received a first place and two second places.

Victoria Marchand riding Serene received a first place and two third places.

Rylie Hunt riding Custom Blend received a fifth place. In the adult section:

Trina Lusse riding her own horse, Gabriel received three second places.

All riders are from Coyote Ridge Riding Centre in West Lorne.

The girls competed against riders from London and Windsor.

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# Oh Canada!

Photos by Jeff Kempenaar



Rodney fire department took it to the West Lorne fire department at the charity baseball game on Canada Day at Miller Park in West Lorne.



West Elgin Legion Branch 221 colour guard joined the 2884 West Elgin Army Cadet Corps. in a parade on Canada day. On June 12 the cadets graduated from their annual inspection. Many of the cadets are furthering their training in leadership and marksmanship. Master Warrant Daniel Balint is headed to Leadership Courses in Banff Alta. and Sgt. Mathew Loos is going to Borden.



# Meet your federal election candidates

## Joe Preston -- Conservative

Joe Preston is running for his first time in a federal election on June 28, but he is no stranger to community work.

The Conservative Party candidate for Elgin-Middlesex-London has organized two United Way campaigns and raised funds for St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital.

Preston says he came by volunteering genetically from his parents.

As owner of the St. Thomas Wendy's franchise for the past 14 years, he just moved to the city three years ago.

He and his wife of 28 years, Geri, have two children, Adam, 25, and Kate, 22.

As a party member for the last three years, Preston was in line to take the EML nomination last fall when he decided against running for the mayor of St. Thomas.

When the Conservative Party merged with the Canadian Alliance, Preston won a three-way race and the nomination.



Preston

## Gar Knutson -- Liberal

Gar Knutson admits his fourth federal campaign will be his toughest battle.

First elected in 1993, then again in '97 and 2000, Knutson is optimistic he will earn the votes in 2004 for the Liberal Party in Elgin-Middlesex-London.

Over the past 10 years Knutson has been a member of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment, the Standing Joint Committee on Scrutiny of Regulations, and the House of Commons Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans.

In 2002 Knutson was named secretary of state and one year later he was re-appointed to Cabinet by Prime Minister Paul Martin. There, he was assigned to the newly created portfolio of minister of state for new and emerging markets.

Knutson and his wife Christine have three children: William, Michael and Clare.

With a law degree and masters in business administration, he managed a small corporation and was a part-time instructor at Fanshawe College in London, Ont.



Knutson

## Will Arlow -- Canadian Action party

The Canadian Action Party candidate, Will Arlow, is a bold doer.

The 46-year-old is running in his third federal election on June 28.

Arlow was raised on a farm in the Edmonton, Alta. area but decided against following his parents' in the beef and cash crop business.

Bored by high



Arlow

school, he dropped out at the end of Grade 11, when he began to study history and globalization.

Arlow worked in construction and built his own oil patch business in Alberta. When the province's economy collapsed, he made his way east.

He started an industrial caster supplying business in the

Lower Mainland. He now lives in Staffordville and continues his caster supplying business.

Married in 1995 to his second wife Deborah, Arlow has five children aged from 15 months to 24 years old.

## Tim McCallum -- NDP

For 30 years Tim McCallum has been affiliated with the New Democratic Party.

The 49-year-old couldn't pass up running in Elgin-Middlesex-London in the June 28 federal election.

McCallum, a control operator at CASCO in London Ont., has spent most of his life in this area. He attended West Elgin Secondary School and worked in radio at CKSL before starting at CASCO in 1981.

McCallum lives in Dutton with his wife Freda. They have two daughters, Lisa, working in London, and Sara, a Queen's University student.

An NDP veteran, he has earned respect in the party as a campaign manager for Hugh MacGinnis in the 1995 provincial election.

He strengthened his skills as campaign manager for Dave Lapointe in the 1999 federal election and by running for Minister of Parliament in EML in the last campaign.



McCallum

**Elgin-Middlesex-London Riding**

**Federal election -- June 28**

## Preston takes EML riding from Knutson



Gar Knutson, right, MP Elgin-Middlesex-London, conceded victory to Joe Preston, M P elect at his campaign's celebrations at St. Anne's Centre Monday night.



# Body discovered by West Lorne man

JEFF KEMPENAAR

staff

Police are investigating the death of a 24-year-old Tilbury man whose body was found Friday by a West Lorne man.

Vic Fisher found the body around 5:30 a.m. last Friday when he came across the man's Ford F-150 pick-up truck on Second Line, east of Iona Road in Southwold.

Fisher was taking scrap metal to John Zubick Ltd. Scrap Metals when he found the truck stopped in the middle of the road. Fisher then pulled up behind the truck, which had Quebec licence plates, and went to tell the driver to pull off the road so he wouldn't get hit. It was still dark.

"I tried to shake him, but his arm was cold," said Fisher. "When I felt his arm, I got out of there."

"I saw no blood or signs of commotion,"

he said.

Fisher went to the second house up the road to call police. He filed his statement with a London OPP sergeant but was surprised the finding hadn't been reported in the media until Monday.

"I wanted to know 'what was going on?' It should have at least got an honourable mention somewhere," he said Monday to the Chronicle.

The OPP would like to speak to anyone else who may have driven by a vehicle which was parked or stopped in the middle of Second Line between the hours of 11 p.m. on June 17 and 5:30 a.m. on June 18.

The cause of death was not determined and name of the man was not released at press time. Elgin OPP Staff Sgt. Ryan Cox said it was a sudden death.



WRAPPED UP

JEFF KEMPENAAR/CHRONICLE

Katie Welch is wrapped in duct tape at the West Lorne Baptist Church which was host to the Survivor All-Star's Community Vacation Bible School. With her is volunteer Bob McLandress. Religious characters were introduced each day with games, crafts and lessons. The event included United, Catholic and Baptist churches.

# Dogs stolen from West Lorne

JEFF KEMPENAAR

staff

The Ingram home has been a little quieter and a little sadder this past week after four of the family's dogs were reported stolen.

Police continue to investigate, but had no new information before press time.

Rose Ingram, mother of three, left her home at Kerr Road and Thompson Line for West Lorne around 3 p.m. on Monday June 7. She returned 15 minutes later but didn't notice the dogs were missing until her seven-year-old daughter, Brenda, got off the school bus and went to play with the dogs.

Missing was the family's

eight-year-old male poodle, Corky, two one-year-old Shih-poos, Nosey and Pepper, and a puppy, Baby. "They probably were stolen and sold," said Brenda.

The fence pen was locked at the east side of the Ingram home. She found the pen had been flipped on its back with the front cage door in the air. Her youngest child, Josh, five, was sitting at the pen crying.

"They would never run away," said Ingram. "It's like they stole a kid from me."

Three days before the dogs went missing someone called animal control about the condition of dogs, said Ingram. Waterford Animal Control came out to inspect

the dogs' shelter and make sure they were being fed.

The animal control officer had no concerns at that time and was able to provide descriptions of the dogs to the police, who were called to investigate.

The Police notified animal control in Glencoe and other kennels in the area to be on the look out. Cream coloured Corky is about 30 centimetres tall with bad teeth.

The family has two dogs now, Katie, the mother of the three Shih-poos that are missing, and Snoopy a Snoozer.

Ingram values the dogs at \$2,400 but sees them more



NEW PLAYGROUND ARRIVES

SCOTT HILGENDORFF/CHRONICLE

Through fundraising efforts of parents and students and support from community groups and businesses, new playground equipment recently arrived at Aldborough Public School. It took less than a year to raise the money needed for the project.

# Road invention saving time and money

RYAN MCLANDRESS

for The Chronicle

A machine created by the West Elgin Road Department is showing local innovation and saving tax payers money.

Road Superintendent Paul VanVaerenbergh says that he had this idea in the back of his mind when he took the job in January 2004 to create a road packer that would lengthen the lives of gravel roads in the area.

"I thought about it a lot before we actually began planning the design," says VanVaerenbergh who acknowledges that the final design was as a result of the input of all the guys at the road's department.

They call this new invention the packer which does essentially that; after the gravel roads are graded, they use this packer that compacts the road, making it smoother, harder while reducing the washboard effect.

Before, they would only grade the road which left loose gravel that in turn would break down and blow away.

The packer was manufactured using all locally bought materials to create the 1,800 pound machine.

It's made of nine deflated tires attached to a steel frame that was welded together by Dave Tuffin. The packer was designed to attach to a hook-up that was already on the grader, making it easily transferable to another grader.

According to VanVaerenbergh, the road's department got the go ahead and the funds from council to put their idea in motion. In the end they were under budget.



PACKING IT DOWN

RYAN MCLANDRESS/CHRONICLE

The West Elgin roads department has invented a packer that is saving time and money

The packer is the first of its kind according to VanVaerenbergh, who says that he has not seen anything like it around. As a result, a patent is in the process to protect the design.

VanVaerenbergh says that the brains behind building it was Tuffin who he says took the design and made it real.

"He (Dave) took it from paper and brought it to life," says VanVaerenbergh.

The municipality has been using the machine for just over a month now and they are already seeing the results.

"Because it compacts the road better, water runs off it, instead of just sitting on it like it used to before," says VanVaerenbergh who says that water is damaging to gravel roads.

"Water is a road's worst enemy... this is what causes pot holes and the washboard effect," says VanVaerenbergh.

As a result of the packer, VanVaerenbergh says that the big money saver is in road maintenance. The roads don't have to be graded as much, which in turn saves a lot of time also.

They are also saving money in other areas as well. Before the packer, they used to use a combination of calcium and salt brine which keeps the gravel compacted and together.

The packer requires only the use of salt brine which is a natural resource anyways. Calcium is no longer needed which is saving the municipality money.

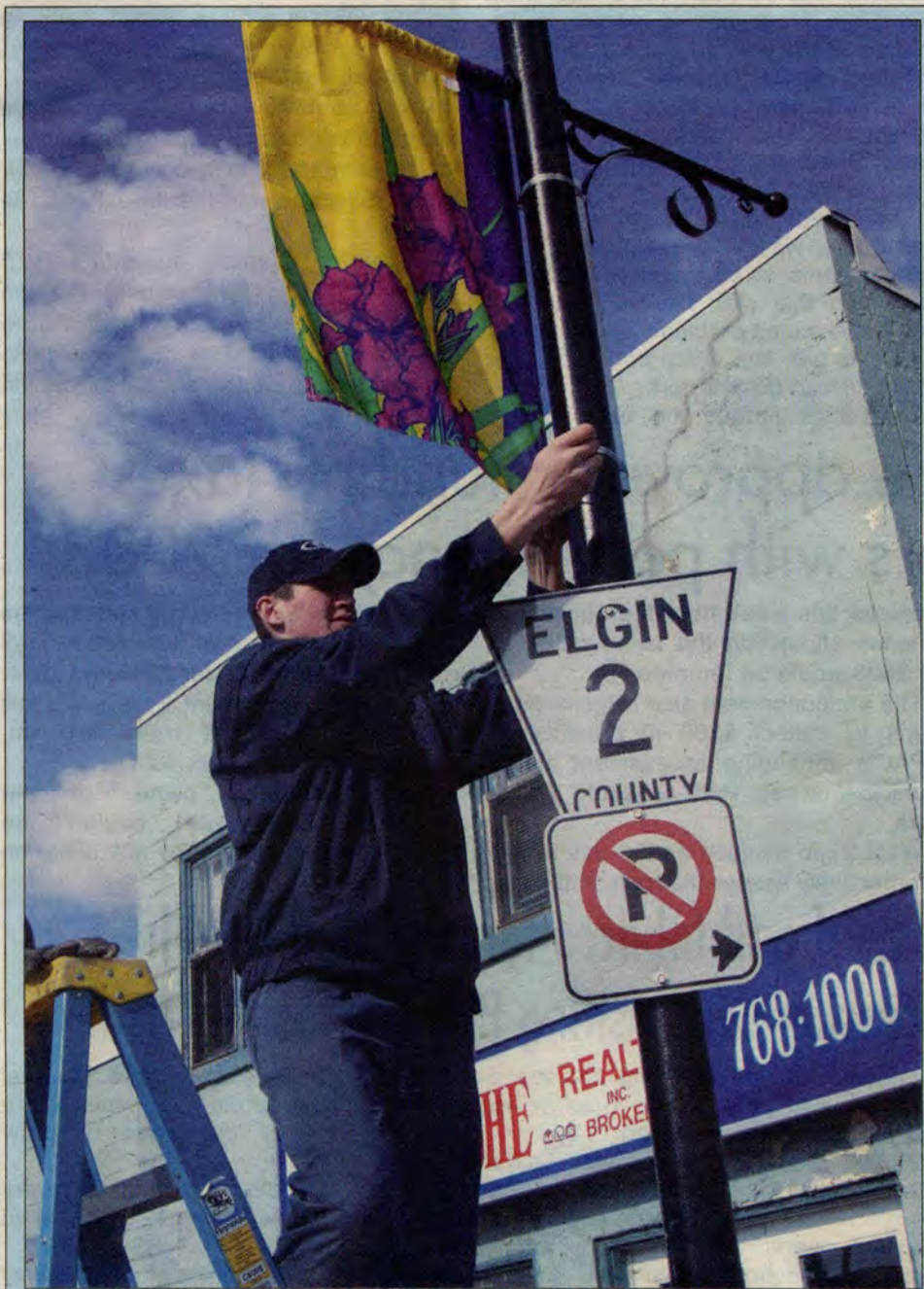
With the first packer going over so well, VanVaerenbergh says that they are looking at building another one to go with their other grader, which is starting to gain notice.

"I have been approached by other municipalities in Elgin County that are interested in it (the packer)," says VanVaerenbergh who says that he is open to other municipalities using the design.

VanVaerenbergh says that they are extremely proud with their invention.

"There's a real sense of accomplishment here with the guys."





THINKING SPRING...

While snow was in the forecast for this week, Adam Ecker of the West Elgin parks and recreation department joined Jeff Slater to hang spring banners along West Lorne's main streets.

Chronicle photo

# High speed arrives

Local group left in dust in race to provide high speed Net access, preparing for David and Goliath battle against Bell's internet

By Scott Hilgendorff  
The Chronicle

Salesmen are going door-to-door offering high speed Internet service and according to Golden.net representatives, Rodney is now connected.

That's and Donna Lunn of the Elgin Community Futures Development Corporation angry.

For three years now, the organization has been working toward increasing the services available in rural Elgin County, a project that lead to the corporation forming a consortium of business and municipal partners that are now on the verge of providing high speed Internet access to all of rural Elgin County.

But just months before the millions of dollars being spent could see the project come to fruition, competitive companies announced they were bringing high speed Internet access into Dutton, West Lorne and Rodney, using Bell infrastructure.

"I'm not pleased that this is happening at this time," said Lunn at a recent West Elgin council meeting.

The Chronicle learned Bell nearly had its high speed Internet infrastructure complete and broke the news to Amtelecom

Inc. in Aylmer last month, the lead agency that successfully applied to establish and operate the high speed service through the Elgin Community Futures Development Corporation.

funds have been invested in providing high speed access across the county.

Until now, only Aylmer and St. Thomas have had the service, viewed essential now for economic development and agriculture.

Warwick said Amtelecom's upcoming service is now at a disadvantage with Bell coming into the urban areas. Bell's infrastructure can now be used by competitive companies such as Execulink and Golden.net as well as Bell's Internet company, Sympatico. He's concerned the revenue from the more densely populated villages leaves less available to make the local project viable.

"Bell is leaving us out here in the rural areas with nothing. That's hellishly unfair. This just doesn't make sense to me. I'm going to make sure they realize it and the rest of Ontario realizes it," he said.

"It's like David and Goliath," said Lunn. "You get little Davey going, you never know what might happen," said Coun. Mike Mooser, also upset by what is happening.

Lunn expects by the end of the summer Amtelecom will have full service to the county.



Mooser

"YOU GET LITTLE DAVEY GOING, YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN"

— Coun. Mike Mooser

Since then, Lunn said she has been on conference calls with Bell executives regarding the issue.

Calls from The Chronicle to Bell's corporate communications department last month and again on Monday were not returned.

"It's a predatory trade practice that can endanger farmers getting high speed, if Bell is allowed to cherry pick the villages," said West Elgin Mayor Graham Warwick.

Bell originally had no plans to provide Internet access to the area which prompted the formation of the Elgin County group.

Now, more than \$3 million in provincial and federal grants, corporate contributions and municipal



Eagle Trading Post owner Larry Hudson, right, with his wife Betty talk to insurance adjuster John Lutes beside the destroyed store on Tuesday, Oct. 12.

## Morning fire guts Eagle Trading Post

JEFF KEMPENAAR staff

Larry and Betty Hudson were a wreck Tuesday morning as they assessed the damage done to their business by a fire that gutted the building.

"We owned the place for 17 years and didn't want it to end like this," said Larry.

Fire destroyed the Eagle Trading Post on Saturday around

5:30 a.m. A passing motorist spotted the fire and called 911. West Lorne volunteer fire department responded to the fire on Talbot Line and Graham Road.

The business that sold vacuums, tools, furniture, appliances, etc. was completely gutted by the fire.

Cause of the fire is unknown and the

Ontario Fire Marshall's Office is assisting the Elgin County OPP with the investigation.

The Fire Marshall told the Hudsons it appeared the blaze was started in the electrical wiring in the attic.

The Hudson's had been privately trying to sell the building for the last year.

They are both in their late 60s and

were hoping to retire soon.

Before they retired they were trying to start a business in their hometown Tillsonburg.

They had purchased new furniture for that store but were storing it in Eagle.

The value of the new furniture was not expected to be covered by insurance.

The Hudson's were trying to sell the building for around \$150,000 and the stock was valued around \$50,000.



OPP scenes of crime Const. Karl Johnston, left and cadet Shawn Stephenson show some of the \$210,000 worth of marijuana and growing equipment seized from a West Lorne-area residence last Wednesday. Submitted photo

## Grow operation busted

Elgin OPP have uncovered what they describe as a "significant" marijuana grow operation in a rural West Lorne house.

Officers conducted a search of a home on Graham Road last Wednesday where they found 328 marijuana plants growing in the basement.

A 41-year-old Toronto man and a 53-year-old London woman were arrested and charged as a result of the search.

Community Services Officer Jennifer Wilks said the plants had a potential street value of \$210,000.

"They were nearing the bud stage, so about two to three weeks from full maturity," she said about the plants.

In addition to the marijuana, officers seized growing equipment worth \$9,000 and \$11,845 in Canadian currency they said was associated with the operation.

The search also revealed the pair had bypassed the electricity consumption meter supplying power to the residence.

The pair face charged of production of a controlled substance for the purpose of trafficking and theft of hydro electricity.

*This was a beautiful home built in 1964 by the late Harold and Peggy Mitchell. Peg was a valued member of the Women's Institute. Harold had owned the Maple Leaf Dairy.*