

## Environment group putting plans into action

► Door-to-door campaign to hand out weed combatant starts this week

Jeff Kempenaar  
Staff

Next week you could find a small package of white clover seed hanging from your front door.

It's a gift from the West Elgin Environmental Group to help you combat weeds in your lawns.

After 30 people attended the environment groups first meeting in May, the Local Home Schooling Group joined to help with the Eco-Elgin Project.

The group will go door-to-door in Dutton, West Lorne and Rodney handing out white clover seeds.

Clovers compete against dandelions and do not grow as high as the weed.

Also, they break up the soil and add nitrates to the soil.

Starting June 22, the group is also giving residents a chance to test drive a reel lawnmower.

Unlike they were 50 years ago, they are much lighter now, says Amanda Murray, an organizer with the environmental group.

"They are much better for the environment than lawnmowers with engines," says Murray of the reel mower which has rotating

blades that turn with the wheels as it is pushed.

Murray says it is ideal for trimming and perfect for smaller lawns.

"A two stroke engine lawnmower, running for an hour, emits the same amount of gases into the air as 30 cars idling for an hour," says Murray.

The group is looking to purchase a reel mower to rent out to people wishing to see how they work.

Reel lawnmowers emit no exhaust into the air.

These two project were among three main programs the Eco-Elgin, West Elgin Environmental Group is taking on.

Craig Hoglund, of the West Elgin Youth Centre, is helping organize a relamping program where the group will hand-out compact florescent bulbs which require less energy, last longer and provide the same amount of light as incandescent bulbs which release CO2 a greenhouse gas which limits oxygen.

He hopes to hand out bulbs and information in the community at the July 16 Farmer's Market at the West Elgin Community Health Centre.

"There are many myths out there about these bulbs. Hopefully, if we show some data

on how they save money and the environment, people will see the benefits," said Hoglund, a graduating high school student.

The health centre's Diane Van Dyk, community worker, helped reinvigorate the environmental group which had been stagnating the last few years.

"It's been great to see so many people come out and start right away on these projects," said Van Dyk.

Long-time West Elgin Environmental Group Chair Marcia White, formally of the Rodney area, is tickled green to see the group revitalized.

She is planning to place No Idling Signage posted in the villages which will encourage people not to sit idling in their cars while waiting.

Their next meeting is June 20 at the West Lorne Complex at 7:30 p.m.

## WEST LORNE AND COMMUNITY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY NEWS

mented, combining 1.5 ASA tablets (uncoated), two gallons of water, and two tbsp of liquid dish soap. This mixture was sprayed on plants, in a controlled test, and the plants responded. They thrived and grew larger than normal. ASA also improves seed germination.

Plant hardiness zones in Canada differ from those in the United States. Our map puts the West Lorne area in Zone 6, but we are considered Zone 5 on the U.S. map.

The Canadian map is a more comprehensive map, with many more factors used than the American map, and we are working on revising this map again.

Seed viability can be determined by wrapping seeds in a dampened paper towel. If less than 7 out of 10 seeds germinate, then Kim recommends purchasing fresh seed, to ensure success.

When purchasing seeds at the nursery, there are some things to keep in mind:

Choose bushy plants over tall, spindly plants. They are bushy because the nursery took the time to pinch them back to encourage new growth.

Don't buy root-bound plants because they will just sit in the ground and won't grow well.

Plants should be purchased for the contribution of its foliage, not just its blooms. Remember, it won't always be in flower.

Be careful that your new plant does not have unwanted insect pests, which will infest other plants in your garden.

Try to not buy plants that are flowering. A plant's energy should be directed to the root system, to establish a good beginning, rather than flowering and producing seed.

Be prepared for your plants. Have flowerbeds worked up and large holes dug before you bring your plants home from the nursery.

Kim Penney was thanked by Susan Lilley for her presentation. Everyone enjoyed a light luncheon, prepared by Marilyn Young.

Memberships for 2007 are available, and at a price everyone can afford. Your contribution helps the society beautify West Lorne.

One new project will be the restoration of the flower beds, at the West Lorne Complex.

A membership also entitles you to discounts at various nurseries and garden centers in southwestern Ontario. Any society member can help you with the purchase of a 2007 membership.



100 attend barbecue JEFF KEMPENAAR/THE CHRONICLE

Candace Conway gets a hotdog from Jenny Morland, Community Program Worker with the Employment Services Elgin at a barbecue held for Hire a Student Week at West Elgin Support Services, June 10.



Cadets clean Port Glasgow JEFF KEMPENAAR/THE CHRONICLE

About 35 members of the 2884 West Elgin Army Cadet Corp. combed Port Glasgow Marina and beach area, cleaning garbage for about four hours June 11.



Plant show held JEFF KEMPENAAR/THE CHRONICLE

Joe Jung receives his second place ribbon for his wind chimes from June Smart at the West Lorne Horticultural Society's Plant Show at the West Elgin Community Health Centre June 10. Elaine Conway won best of show for house plants. Betty McKillop won for best design.

## Horticulturalists see presentation about ornamental grasses

### WEST LORNE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY NEWS

slide show and commentary on ornamental grasses.

Dale explained how grasses are the very same as any other perennial and should be looked after in basically the same way. Although it is true grasses look different, they all behave in the same way, except for one or two which will spread underground.

All grasses should be left until spring to be cut back or separated. This also allows for an

necessary. Grasses come in all sizes, heights, shapes and colours so if you want to use them in landscaping, there are hundreds of types and plan ahead of time where you want to put them. To maintain the grass Dale stressed that you water well, weed and watch. Wait a few

years before bothering the plant. Dale also said it is a good idea to take pictures during the different seasons allowing the gardener to see what should be moved and what else to plant among the grass.

She brought several species with her which she donated to the society for door prizes.

Susan thanked Dale for coming as well as the many gardeners that attended the informative evening. Lunch was served by Helen Kovacs and Susan Lilley

The West Lorne and Community Horticultural Society held a meeting at the West Lorne Complex May 10. Pres. Susan Lilley opened the meeting with announcements of upcoming events such as the bus trip to Paris, Nanticoke, etc. to view perennial gardens; the Nanticoke Nursery; Huntington Gardens and Chris Cox who grows astilbe, etc. Guest speaker for the evening was Dale Smith of St. Thomas, who gave a wonderful



50 years Kiwanian

Harley Lashbrook has been a Kiwanis Club member for 50 years. He's the longest serving member in West Lorne.



**Michigan Central Station 1904, West Lorne**

— Photo courtesy of Harley Lashbrook Mercury-Sun Publications

## Railways change small towns forever

For the naming of the village railroad officials chose the name of the possible stops along the route, if no named settlement existed. Throughout western Elgin the names designated were: Iona, Currie Road Crossing, Dutton (Graham Road) and Rodney. Mr. Dutton was the name of the survey engineer responsible for the building of the railroad through West Elgin.

### West Lorne

In the year 1882 the Canada Southern Railway leased their land for 21 years to the Michigan Central Railroad, and by 1902 a double track was formed. This line ran from Windsor to St. Thomas to Fort Erie. Around 1900 An "Electric Block" system was installed to prevent train collisions. By 1903 the Michigan Central had leased the railroad for 99 years. During the year 1934 wigwags with bells and flashing red lights were installed at the crossings and gates were lowered. Squire Schleihauf in 1872 donated land to the Canada Southern Railway on the condition that the village be called "Bismarck" after the German counselor. However it was also insisted the village be called "Lorne"

after the Marquis of Lorne, who was the Governor General of Canada from 1878-1883. Another reason it was to be called "Lorne" was because of its "low lands, and swampy area" which is what "Lorne" means in Celtic. A mill operated by the name of "Lorne Mills" and when passenger trains would go through, the conductor would call out "Bismarck Station, West Lorne."

In 1901, Lake Erie, Essex and Detroit railroad was completed between St. Thomas, and Walkerville. The tracks went from Walkerville, east to Kingsville, Leamington and to Blenheim. The line continued to Ridgeway, Highgate, Rodney, West Lorne, Dutton, and South East to the south end of St. Thomas. In the early 20th century sixteen passenger trains per day stopped at both railroads in West Lorne. The first railroad station was built in 1873, on James Street, which is now known as Wellington Street. This didn't seem to be a good location. Later it was moved to Graham Street on what is now Erie Flooring property. The station was torn down in 1974.

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**Argyle House 1870s-1961, West Lorne**

— Photo courtesy of Harley Lashbrook Mercury-Sun Publications

## Hotels welcomed travellers to area

### West Lorne

Hotels were an important part of early life. They were found every few miles along the main roads of travel. Hotels provided meals and lodging to the travelling salesmen, and to the locals a place to socialize.

The Wilton House hotel was built prior to the year 1870, the third storey was erected in 1888. In 1912 a fire resulted in its loss. The hotel contained three full floors, a bar and a kitchen. October 21st 1899 a fire occurred in the stables.

The second hotel to be built in the village was the Argyle House, built before 1870 as

well. In 1961 it was torn down to make way for the new Bank of Montreal. This was the only hotel in the village that didn't burn down, it was over 100 years old.

Roome's Hotel was built in the early 1870's by Samuel Mogg. It caught fire in 1912 and burned to the ground. The story of the burning goes as follows: a shoe repair shop beside the hotel was in financial stress so the man who owned it set fire to his own shop and boarded a train to Detroit. With only four feet between the two buildings, the hotel caught fire and burned completely.

Continued on pg. 13

## Post masters deliver mail across area connecting villages



**Duncan McKillop  
First Post Master  
of West Lorne**

— Photo courtesy of Harley Lashbrook Mercury-Sun Publications

### West Lorne –

Citizens of West Lorne did not begin to receive mail on a daily basis until 1872. The post office was operated by Duncan McKillop who remained post master until 1919. In 1980 the office moved to Gangle's Insurance building on the north side of Main Street where it still is today. In the early years of Canada postal service there was a lot of confusion getting mail to the correct destination, because of the similarities and actual duplications of Lorne. A "Lorne" post office had opened in Bruce County north of Kincardine, in 1871. And there was another "Lorne" in Pictou County Nova Scotia. On July 1st 1873, the name West Lorne was chosen to assure correct mail delivery.

### Dutton –

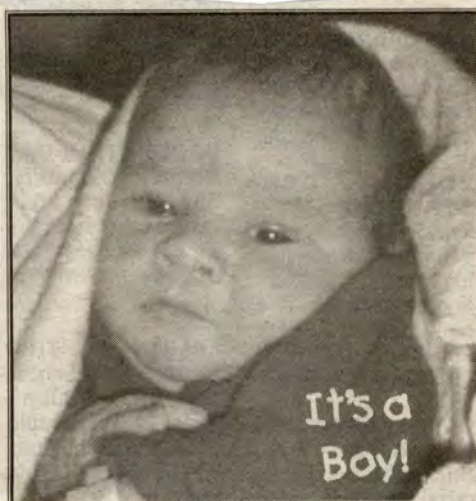
Established on October 1st 1874 under the official name of

"Dutton Station" the first post master was Archibald John Leitch. On January 1st 1887 the name "station" was officially dropped. A.J. Leitch built a modest wooden store on the west side of Main Street, just north of the Canadian Southern Railway, called the "post office" store. Although the post office was located in various places in the village, this building stood often unoccupied, until July of 1909 when it was finally razed. By June 1910 rural mail was established at Dutton & Crinan. The people had their own mail boxes and received mail three times a week.

### Rodney –

Duncan McIntyre, who was also a tailor, became Rodney's first postmaster. The mail was brought from Wardsville once a week, sometimes on foot, however it was mostly on horseback

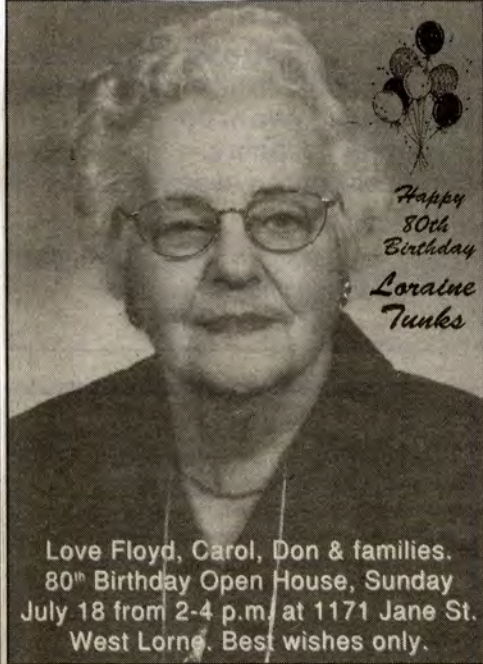
# SOCIAL 2004



It's a Boy!

**MINOGUE**

Casey and Melissa are proud to announce the birth of their son, Ryan James on Wednesday, June 23, 2004 weighing 8lbs. Proud grandparents are Dave and Cathy Sloetjes of Dutton, Rick and Lynda Hernandez of Kitchener, Tammi Minogue and Don Wallis of Ingersoll.



Happy 80th Birthday  
Lorraine Tunks

Love Floyd, Carol, Don & families.  
80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Open House, Sunday  
July 18 from 2-4 p.m. at 1171 Jane St.  
West Lorne. Best wishes only.



Happy 1st & 66th Birthday  
Nolan & Ed Schnekenburger  
July 13 & 17, 2004



Happy 30th  
Birthday  
Richard ~ July 10th  
Love Mom & Dad,  
Monique & Ryan & Melissa



HAPPY 1st BIRTHDAY  
EMMA NICOLLE FULMER  
July 16th  
Love from all your family



Happy 1st Birthday  
Kalinda  
Love Mommy and Daddy



It's a Boy!

**RICHARD ~ THORNTON**  
Kelli, Dan and big sister Kalinda are pleased to announce the arrival of Jesse Corbin on June 12, 2004. He weighed 7lbs 6 1/2 ozs and was 20 inches long. Thanks to the staff of London Health Sciences Centre.



It's a Girl!

**TIMMERMANS**

Steve and Karen Timmermans along with big sister Ashley are pleased to announce the arrival of their beautiful baby girl, Amy Elizabeth born on May 17, 2004 at 3:45pm weighing in at 8lbs. 13ozs. Proud grandparents are Helen & Peter Timmermans and Beryl & Derek Pickering.



It's a Boy!

**SLAATS**

Jeremy & Melissa are thrilled to announce the birth of their first child, *Ethan Kennedy Slaats*. Spoiling privileges go to Doug and Michele Kennedy & Harry and Joanne Slaats.



It's a Boy!

**Wyatt Santos McKenzie**

Rob and Elizabeth McKenzie are pleased to announce the birth of their son Wyatt Santos McKenzie on June 16, 2004, weighing 6 lbs. 9 oz. Proud grandparents are Laird and Sharon McKenzie of London and Jose and Ilda Santos of West Lorne.



**WEDDING**

*Jewell - Southern*

Erika Jewell, daughter of Don & Carol Jewell, West Lorne, exchanged vows with Mark Southern, son of Bill & Betty Southern, Guelph on Saturday, September 25th, 2004. After honeymooning in Cayo Coco, Cuba, the happy couple are residing in Kitchener.




**BIRTH**

Barry & Erika Hogan thank God for the safe and much anticipated arrival of their son, *Barry John "Jack" Hogan*, born November 8th, 2004. 7 lbs. 6 ozs., 21.5 inches long. Thrilled grandparents are Brian & Joanna Simpson of Glencoe and Barry & Marcia Hogan of Sarnia. Great grandparents are Doug & Edna Simpson of Glencoe, Anna Kustermans of Parkhill and Ilene Johnston of Corunna. Jack also has 18 aunts and uncles with spoiling privileges. Our thanks to Dr. Pressey, Dr. Blunt and the fantastic nursing staff at Bluewater Health in Sarnia. Special thanks to all of our family and friends for their love and support during this wonderful experience.




Please join family in a double celebration of Ted & Evelyn Vandenberg's 25th Wedding Anniversary and Ted's 80th birthday. Open House Sat. November 20 at the West Lorne Legion ~ 2 to 5 p.m. Best wishes only, please.

# SOCIAL 2004



**HAPPY 5th ANNIVERSARY**  
 May 1, 1999 "MOMMY & DADDY"  
 Vicky and Syd Heard  
 Love Derek and all your family  
 XO XO

The family of Philomene and Carl Pelcz wish to extend congratulations on the happy occasion of their  
**50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**  
 MAY 8, 1954



Congratulations and Best Wishes for today and always ..... with all our love, your children and grandchildren

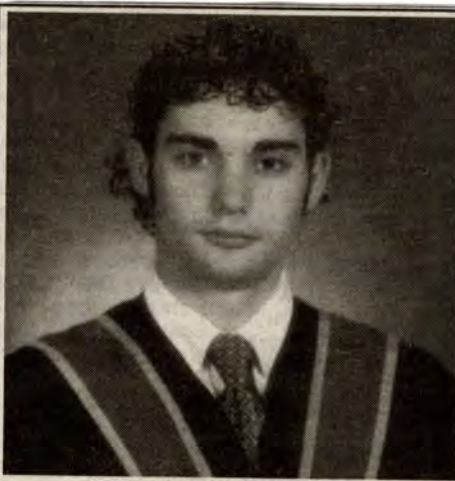


**Golden Anniversary**  
 Come help Vera & Ross Taplin celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary at an Open House on May 15, 2004 from 2 to 4pm at the Highgate Legion. Best wishes only.



**IT'S A BOY!**

**BROPHY**  
 Todd, Deanna and big sister Halle, are thrilled to announce the arrival of Kalan Roger, born at St. Joes London on Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2004 at 12:01 a.m., weighing 8lb, 12oz. Proud grandparents are Herb & Dianne Felder of Rodney, Barbara & Brian Dodds of Mississauga and Roger & Sue Brophy of Kingston. Great grandparents Laurna Hodder of Dutton and Conrad & Katie Felder of West Lorne.

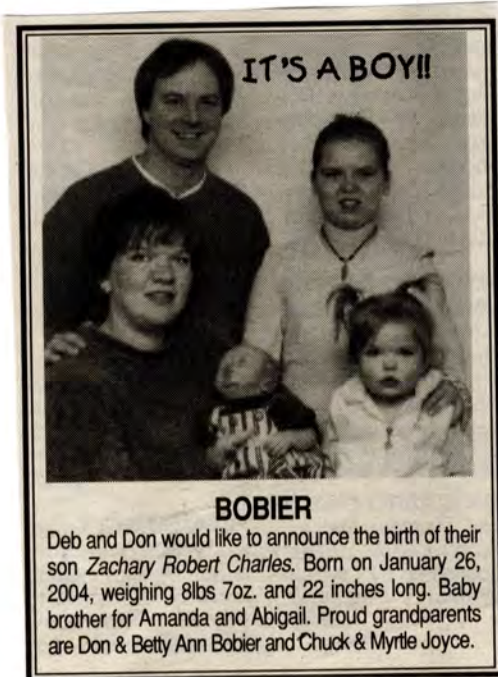


**GRADUATION**  
 Chris Vojin graduated from a 3-year Mechanical Engineering Technology course at Durham College, Oshawa, on June 18, 2004. Chris is the son of Pat & Janis Vojin, and is currently travelling in Australia.



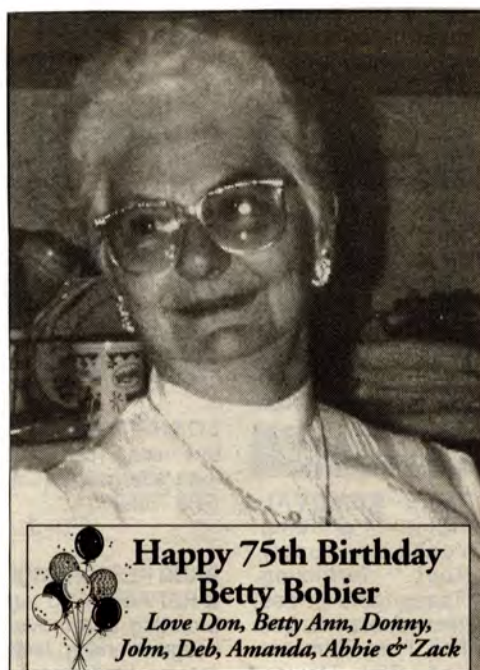
**Happy 20th Anniversary Karen & Brad Conway May 5, 2004**

For all the years you've been together your love for each other is still as strong as ever **WE LOVE YOU Mommy & Daddy...** your kids Andrew, Jeremy, Candice, Kelsey and Joshua



**IT'S A BOY!!**

**BOBIER**  
 Deb and Don would like to announce the birth of their son Zachary Robert Charles. Born on January 26, 2004, weighing 8lbs 7oz. and 22 inches long. Baby brother for Amanda and Abigail. Proud grandparents are Don & Betty Ann Bobier and Chuck & Myrtle Joyce.



**Happy 75th Birthday Betty Bobier**  
 Love Don, Betty Ann, Donny, John, Deb, Amanda, Abbie & Zack

## WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT



**Mike & Katrina Kalita**  
 Rien & Helen Van Brenk, Gary & Audrey Jamieson, Gary & Linda Kalita are happy to announce the marriage of their children. The wedding took place Saturday, August 28th, 2004 at 4 p.m., an outdoor service on the Van Brenk Farm with Pastor Diane MacPherson officiating. Maid of honour - Trina Van Brenk (sister-in-law of the bride) brides maids were Lisa Van Brenk (sister-in-law of the bride), Teresa Small, Anna Good, Nicole Sloetjes, Kari Matos (friends of the bride). Jr. bridesmaids Emily Jamieson, Dakoto Kalita, (nieces of the groom). Best man - John Miller (friend of the groom), ushers Matt Jamieson, Chris Kalita, Tom Kalita (brothers of the groom), Aaron Good, Kirk Tobias, Adam Hoffman (friends of the groom), ring bearers Hunter Van Brenk & Finn Van Brenk (nephews of the bride). They will honeymoon in Australia. Katrina and Mike thank their families and friends for the love and support.



**FIRST BABY OF 2004**  
 Addiena Margaret was born at 12:24 am on January 1, 2004 at Howard County General Hospital, MD. USA, making her the first born in Howard County in 2004. Her parents are Lisa and David Nicolaou of Elliot City. Addiena weighed 6lbs. 9ozs. and was 20 1/4 inches long at birth. Proud grandparents are Bruce and Violet Bragg and the late Margaret Anne Bragg.

**Happy 40th Birthday Lawrence**



**Betcha thought we forgot!**  
 Love from all your family and friends

**50th Wedding Anniversary Marie & Keith Kelly**



The family invites you to an open house to celebrate on Saturday, October 23, 2004 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm at Calvary United Church, Rodney. Best wishes only please.

"You Look Just Like Your Mother"



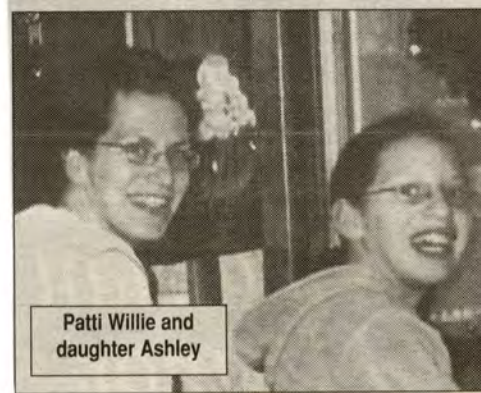
Kathy Mullin and daughter Dakota Kalita



Judy McMillan and daughter Jill



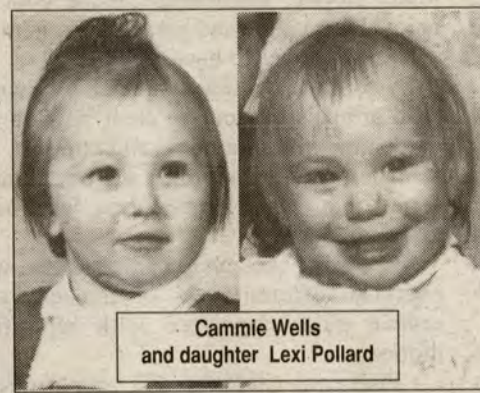
Margaret Gruenbauer and daughter Christine



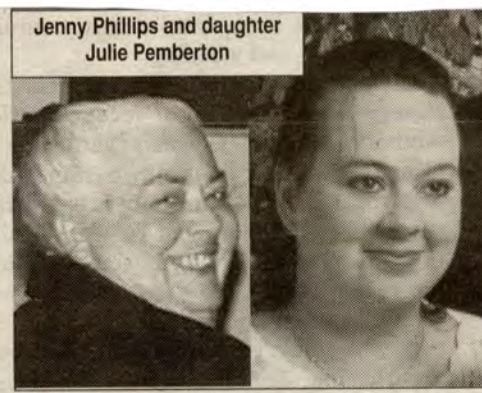
Patti Willie and daughter Ashley



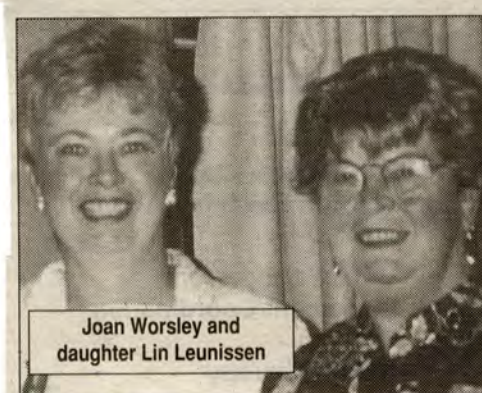
Lyn Lusse and daughter Trina



Cammie Wells and daughter Lexi Pollard



Jenny Phillips and daughter Julie Pemberton



Joan Worsley and daughter Lin Leunissen



Myrtle Joyce and daughter Deb Bobier



Patricia Tunks and daughter Courtney



Mona Moorby-Blain and daughter Taylor



Linda Connolly and daughter Chloe



Ethel Williams and daughter Karen Carroll



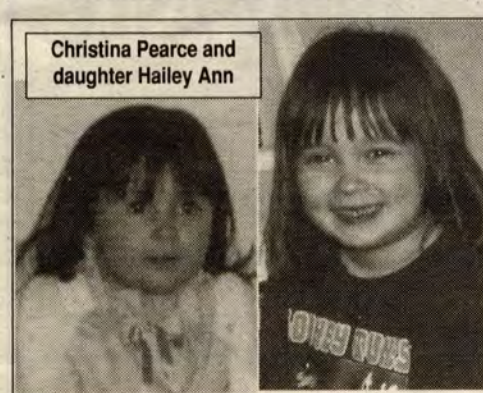
Melanie Rose and daughters Katelyn and Allison



June Hodder and daughter Lisa



Olive (Betty) Johnston with daughter Anne Nogradi and granddaughter Julie Nogradi



Christina Pearce and daughter Hailey Ann



Gloria McLeod and daughter Laurie McKillop



Jordana McGill and daughter Angelica



Ruth and Henry Mooser, West Lorne and Moira, Greg and Tyler Miller, Glencoe are pleased to announce the engagement and upcoming marriage of Shaun and Nicole. The wedding will take place on September 4, 2004 at Riverside United Church in London.



**HOLBORN ~ PATON**

Herb and Sandi Paton are proud to announce the forthcoming marriage of their son, Shawn Daniel to Kristina Lynn, daughter of Carman and Debbie Holborn. The wedding will take place Saturday, September 18, 2004 with an outdoor service given at the home of the groom's parents.

**50th Wedding Anniversary**



**Angus & Gwen McLain**

They will be celebrating and renewing their vows on Saturday, August 21, 2004 at 7pm at the Moose Lodge, 35 Charterhouse Cr., London

**60th Wedding Anniversary**



**Earl & Marion Wright**

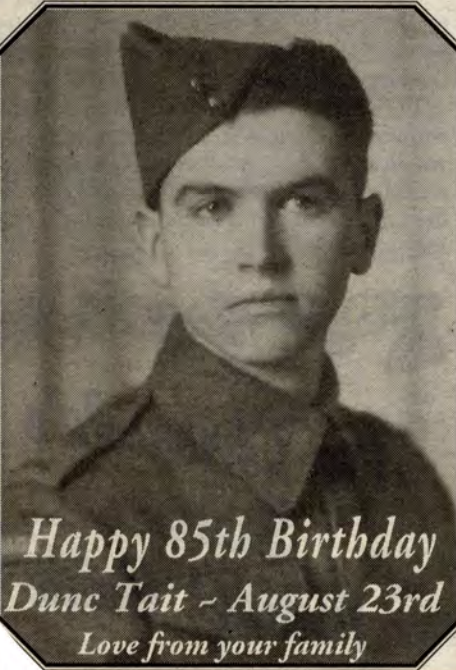
Please join us at 290 Furnace Road, Rodney on Saturday, August 28, 2004 from 2pm to 5pm for an anniversary celebration. Best wishes only please.



Carla Brown and Nolan Tweddle will be exchanging wedding vows on September 11, 2004 at Bear Creek Golf Club in Strathroy. The proud parents are Gary and Shirley Brown and Doug and Pat Tweddle.



On behalf of family and friends, congratulations are extended to Cynthia Lynn DeWild who graduated from the University of Waterloo on June 19, 2004 with her Honours Bachelor of Applied Science Degree (Environmental/Civil Engineering). Cynthia has accepted a research position with the University of Western Ontario and the National Research Council while working towards her Masters Degree of Medical Biophysics.



**Happy 85th Birthday  
Dunc Tait ~ August 23rd**  
Love from your family



**Van Brenk ~ Kalita**

Rien and Helen Van Brenk are proud to announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Katrina to Mike Kalita, son of Audrey & Gary Jamieson and Gary & Linda Kalita. The wedding will take place at 4pm on Saturday, August 28th, 2004 at the farm. An outdoor service will be given by minister Diane MacPerson followed by a reception.



**80th BIRTHDAY OPEN HOUSE**  
For Beatrice Casey  
Come celebrate with us  
Sunday, April 25th at St. Mary's Hall,  
West Lorne from 1pm to 3pm  
**BEST WISHES ONLY PLEASE**  
If you wish, donations to be made  
to the Caring Cupboard



Mr. & Mrs. Joe & Maria Oliveira and Mr. & Mrs. Ron & Barb Trudell are pleased to announce the marriage of their children, Aida and Mike. The wedding will take place at St. Mary's Catholic Church on June 26, 2004



The families of Catherine Hofmans and Scott Galbraith are pleased to announce their engagement and upcoming wedding on June 12th, 2004 at the home of Jerry & Bev Galbraith. The couple will reside in Kingston.



Don and Carol Jewell of West Lorne and Bill and Betty Southem of Guelph wish to announce the forthcoming marriage of their children, Erika and Mark on Saturday, September 24, 2004 at West Lorne United Church.



**The newest little Pizza Maker  
in town at P.J.'s Pizza  
'Leah Louise'**  
April 4, 2004 • 9lbs. 13ozs.  
Congratulations Bruce & Kelly



**Robert D. Tait, H.B.A., B.Ed.**

Rob graduated from Queen's University, Kingston, ON. on June 3, 2004, receiving his Bachelor of Education degree. He attained his Honours Bachelor of Arts in History and Geography from the University of Guelph on June 10, 2003. His parents, Dunc and Annie Isobel and his sister Phyllis are very proud of his accomplishments and wish him a future filled with continued success as he continues striving towards his goals.



Mr. & Mrs. Albert Patterson of West Lorne, along with Mr. & Mrs. Wolfgang Fischer of Guelph, are pleased to announce the engagement of their children, Tim & Sabrina. Wedding to take place June 11, 2004 at Springfield Golf Course Guelph.