

**WEST ELGIN HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMMISSION
SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES**

The following hydro rates are effective January 1, 1999 and are subject to Ontario Hydro approval. The rates are as previously charged in 1998.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES - Regular:

Energy Charges	
First 250 kW.h	(per kWh) 12.42¢
All additional kW.h	(per kWh) 7.40¢
Minimum Bill	\$7.75

RESIDENTIAL SERVICE - Miscellaneous:

Sentinel light - per kilowatt of connected load (unmetered energy)	(per kW) \$28.71
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**GENERAL SERVICE - Regular:
(0 - 5000 kW)**

Billing Demand	
First 50 kW	(per kW) \$0.00
All additional kW	(per kW) \$5.40
Energy Charges	
First 250 kW.h	(per kWh) 12.42¢
Next 12,250 kW.h	(per kWh) 7.92¢
Next 69,700 kW.h	(per kWh) 5.75¢
All additional kW.h	(per kWh) 3.58¢
Minimum Bill - Under 50 kW of maximum demand	\$7.75
Minimum Bill - over 50 kW of maximum demand - per kW of maximum demand during the previous eleven months or contracted amount whichever is greater	(per kW) \$0.60

GENERAL SERVICE - Miscellaneous:

Sentinel Light - per kilowatt of connected load (unmetered energy)	(per kW) \$28.71
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GENERAL SERVICE - Time of Use

Winter Billing Demand	
Peak Period All kW	(per kW) \$13.86
Summer Billing Demand	
Peak Period All kW	(per kW) \$9.76
Winter Energy Charges	
Peak Period all kW.h	(per kWh) 5.09¢
Off-Peak Period All kW.h	(per kWh) 3.45¢
Summer Energy Charges	

GENERAL SERVICE - Time Of Use:

Peak Period All kW.h	(per kWh) 4.50¢
Off-Peak Period All kW.h	(per kWh) 2.37¢

STREET LIGHTING - Regular:

Per kW of connected load	(per kW) \$26.10
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TRANSFORMER

Losses:
adjustment shall be made in accordance with Section IV, clause 7 of the Standard Application of Rates
Allowance for Ownership:
(per kw of billing demand)
service at less than 115kV

	(per kW) \$0.60
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SPECIFIC SERVICE CHARGES

Customer Administration	
Account Setup Charge	\$8.80
Dispute Involvement Charges	\$5.00
Non-Payment of Account	
Late Payment	5.00%
Returned Cheque Charge - Actual Bank Charges plus	\$8.55
Reconnection - during regular working hours	\$17.60
Reconnection - after regular working hours	\$27.80

Water Rates (Town and Rural Customers)

The following are the new water rates effective for all water consumers on or after January 1, 1999.

RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL:

Service Charge -	\$18.50/Month
Water Charge -	\$2.95 per 1000 gallons or \$.65 per cubicmetre
Surcharge to customers on Glencoe Line (Due to wholesale rate from Glencoe PUC)	\$2.82 per 1000 gallons or \$.62 per cubicmetre

RODNEY

Coin Station Key & Coin Customers -	\$10.00 per 1000 gallons of water
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Sewage Rates

Rodney Sewage Rates	= 133 % of total water bill
West Lorne Sewage Rates	= 89 % of total water bill



Rien Van Breuk
1999 Elgin County Warden

**Van Breuk named 1999
Elgin County Warden**

The Municipality of Dutton-Dunwich has its first-ever Elgin County Warden. Mayor Rien Van Breuk was elected to the post at an election Dec. 8 at the County Building in St. Thomas. Van Breuk will replace outgoing Warden Perry Clutterbuck. Van Breuk ran against Aylmer Mayor Bob Habkirk.

The last wardens from the area included Robert Purcell (Dutton - '86 and '87) and Albert Ford (Dunwich - '89). Jan. 1 of this year the two communities joined to form the Municipality of Dutton-Dunwich.

Van Breuk says he hopes to continue

building on the many achievements Elgin County Council had over the past year. "As we all know, this was a year of transition and change in a restructured county system," he says. "We addressed the challenges and had a who lot of fun at the same time."

Van Breuk brings political experience to his new position including nine years on Dunwich Council, three years as Deputy Reeve and the last year as Mayor of the newly formed Municipality of Dutton-Dunwich.

See 'Van Breuk' Page 2

CURRENT
EVENTS
1998

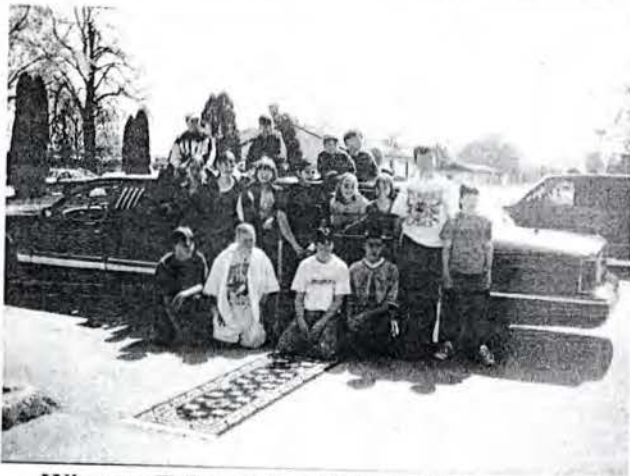
Hefty help for Heart and Stroke



The Heart and Stroke Foundation received a generous helping hand from the students of St. Mary's School (Jump Rope for Heart & Hoops For Heart) and Aldborough Public School (Jump Rope for Heart). Students helped to raise more than \$12,000 between the two schools. In top photo, St. Mary's principal Dianne Waite and staff coordinator Linda Van Raay present a cheque for \$3,119.73 to Paul Lovelock, chairman of Jump Rope for Heart and Hoops for Heart in Elgin County. Helping with the presentation are, from left to right, Alex McFadden, Emily Vandenberg, Matthew Johnston, Crystal Witoway, Megan Regnier, Molly McWilliam, Jackie Hwang, Dakota Poels and Derek Reno. Below, Aldborough P. S. top money raisers Stacey Penney, Chelsey Wilson and Lauren Sheedy present Lovelock with a cheque for \$9,027.80. Both schools wish to thank the community for all their support in helping with these events.



Wednesday April 29, 1998



Winners Take a Limo Ride to McDonald's

West Lorne - Ontario

Roll out the red carpet! Congratulations to all 17 students from the West Elgin Senior Elementary School who recently sold chocolate bars to help fund raise for their year end grade eight trip to Camp Celtic. During the two-week campaign, recently run in early March, any student who sold 100 bars or more was eligible for a free limousine ride with "A Class Above Limousine" and lunch at "McDonalds," compliments of **New Horizons Fund Raising Consultants Ltd.** Teachers Ms. Race and Mr. Lawrence, co-ordinators for the school fund raising this year, will also enjoy a ride and free lunch.

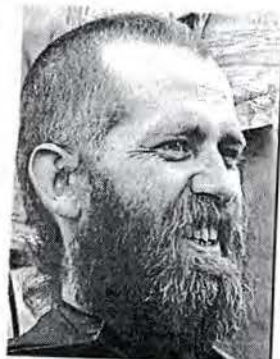
Following are the winners of this contest: Jessica Ambrose, Amanda Breen, Kyle Chouinard, Jessica Drummelsmith, Trevor Kuska, Jeff Leatherdale, Denis Nash, Nathan Newport, Carl Ouellette, Liz Rose, Erika Swallowell, Ryan Thomas, Ryan Thyssen, Bill VanRaes, Nicole Welch, Justin Whitnev and Adam Wilton



Celebrating 170 years of faith

What would a celebration be without cake! The Knox Presbyterian Church, New Glasgow celebrated 170 years of the Presbyterian Church being in the area. The July 5th service saw the tiny church overflowing with more than 260 parishioners and guests. Guest speaker Dr. William Klempa, moderator of the 124th General Assembly, spoke to the crowd on the church's rich history but also told of the importance of pressing ahead to keep the Presbyterian faith and vision alive. Guests also enjoyed an outdoor celebration and historical display of the New Glasgow Pioneer Cemetery. Here, Jack Buchan (left), the longest member of the church at 60 years, helps cut the cake with Dr. Klempa, Elsie Grey, a 50-year-member and Bob Buchan, who helped to arrange Dr. Klempa's trip to New Glasgow from Montreal.

Photo by Kathy Hollingsworth



Goin', Goin', GONE!



It was a hair raising - or should that be hair shaving - experience for West Lorne resident Murray Kiers recently as he chopped off his hair and beard to help raise money for charity. Kiers collected more than \$ 1,307 for Mission for Kids, a non-profit volunteer group that provides joy and comfort to the needy children of the world with toys, clothes and food. In top photo, West Lorne businessman Brian Hopkins (Siderite Home Improvements) made the highest bid and received the honors of shaving Kiers - including the first cut with a pair of garden shears. Jack The Barber (Jack Morrison) from Wardsville was also on hand to do a little tidy work. At right, Kiers presents the cheque to Mission For Kids president Betty King. The money will be used to purchase eight bed kits for Sleeping Children Around the World, as well as cash donations to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and the Notre Maison Orphanage in Haiti.



THE EAGLE UNION CHURCH



Unveiling the plaque are Mr. Ron Payne and Mr. Lenord Linch a grandson to the Lindermans. The plaque after unveiling.

by Mr. Ron Payne

Where does one start to tell the history of a building, especially a church, for at this date (1998) goes back in history some 130 years to the pioneer days in Aldborough. In those days, by the mid 1860's, Eagle was a thriving Village, with many businesses, hotels, stores, post office and a dock at the lake. The population was about 300 until 1872. Larger than the Villages of Bismark and Lorne (now known as West Lorne). The need for a church was great, so in 1865 the Eagle community church was built on this land donated by the Lindenman family.

The building of the church has a very interesting history - that history is as follows in part - a raft of logs drifted ashore at the lake, it was left unclaimed, until Robert Mowbray (and Dawdy Mill) offered to saw the

logs into lumber for a new church, for it was to be a community project. For the church was to be a non-denominational church, to be used by any faith. The church in appearance was a very plain and simply designed colonial meeting house. The different religious body that used the church were the Disciples, Methodists and Presbyterians and the Methodists held their first service in 1877 and held it at night time during the week, later held their services on Sunday morning. The Presbyterians usually held a service once a month. The Disciples held services at night. Sunday School was always an important part of the church activities and which never lapsed as long as services were held. Attendance often as high as seventy children. These arrangements carried on for many years, by the late 1870 and early 1880, Eagle was on the

decline due to the railways coming to the villages of Rodney and West Lorne.

The Disciples built in Rodney (1875) and in West Lorne (1904), this marked the end for the Disciples at Eagle. They struggled on for a few more years and then closed as a Disciple Church at Eagle.

The building continued to be used by the United Church for many years before it was completely closed in 1962.

The last service was held in the Eagle Church in 1967, for that time the village of Eagle, as a Centennial project, held a church service with the guest speaker being "William Sheeler" of London, (a former high school teacher). So in closing I would like to say that: the little eagle community church has had a great influence on so many people, for through its doors has passed, teachers, doc-

trates, lawyers, members of parliament, missionaries and many other people it was just a great "joy and love," as they travel throughout life serving their Lord and Saviour.

A LITTLE MORE HISTORY: The West Lorne Disciples became the overseers of the building; they have ownership of it because of the following circumstance. Though the building was erected as a Union church, for some reason all three trustees were Disciples. In 1870 when the deed was filed at the registry office in St. Thomas between the Lindermans and the

trustees for the church, the trustees nominated and appointed for that purpose were Archibald McKillop, Archibald Munro and Archibald Pureel. The deed states that the church must believe in membership by total immersion and weekly communion; if the church ceases to exist, the building falls into the hands of the nearest church that has these belief's. So it is that the Eagle building became the responsibility of the West Lorne Disciples church. In the 1990's they also had the sad task of tearing the old church down.

(continued next week)

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Vacation Bible School was held in West Lorne between the United, Presbyterian and Anglican Churches. There were approximately 51 youth that participated during the week. They played games, bible study and many other fun activities. Heading the Bible School was Rev. Colin Stover and 10 program directors, and 12 pre school helpers (teens). It is always a great success.

Aug. 1998

Three congregations to join forces

The Presbyterian congregations in Dutton, West Lorne and Wallacetown have decided to embark upon a two-year trial amalgamation.

Having discussed the pros and cons of amalgamation for some years, and following a number of surveys where the congregations discovered that the majority of their members wanted to seek God's leading for the formation of a new congregation, all of the ministries, programs and worship services of the pastoral charge are now to be combined in the Dutton Church beginning Sept. 1.

The first worship service is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 6. The new congregation will be known as Community Presbyterian Church and will offer a wide range of ministries to every age group.

Since the three previous congregations have had a very active involvement in the community, Community Presbyterian Church will continue in this tradition, enlarging service and outreach ministries to adults, youth and children.

The church will also offer a number of different kinds of worship experiences catering to every age group and musical preference.

Dos Santos

A TRIBUTE TO ROY DOS SANTOS

Suddenly as the result of a construction accident on Tuesday, November 17th, 1998, Roy Dos Santos of West Lorne, in his 31st year. He was a well known coach of minor hockey and soccer.

Deeply loved and sadly missed by his parents Manuel and Natalia Dos Santos of West Lorne, fiancée' Nancy Dieleman of Wallacetown, brother Joe Dos Santos of West Lorne, and sister Isabelle Cassidy and her husband Tim of Lucan.

Friends called at the West Lorne Chapel on Friday, November 20th 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. where prayers were offered at 2:15 p.m. Funeral mass was held at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, West Lorne on Saturday, November 21st at 11:00 p.m. the Rev. Fr. J. Neveit celebrant Internment St. Mary's cemetery

Donations to the West Lorne minor hockey and soccer were appreciated.

Arrangements entrusted to the Padfield Funeral Home Rodney (519) 785 - 0810

ROY'S BANTAM TEAM



WHAT ARE VOLUNTEERS?

Volunteers are like **FORD..**
They have better ideas.
Volunteers are like **COKE...**
They're the **REAL THING**
Volunteers are like **PAN AM..**
They make the **GOING GREAT.**
Volunteers are like **PEPSI..**
They've got a **LOT TO GIVE.**
Volunteers are like **VO-5 HAIR SPRAY..**
Their **GOODNESS HOLDS IN ALL KINDS OF WEATHER.**
Volunteers are like **HALLMARK CARDS ..**
They **CARE ENOUGH TO SEND THE VERY BEST.**
But most of all,
Volunteers are like **FROSTED FLAKES ...**
They're **GGGREAT!**

A TRIBUTE TO A CO-WORKER

On November 17th, 1998 the West Elgin Free Press lost a good friend and supporter, Roy Dos Santos. Roy has been a friend for years; having Roy writing his articles for us was a pleasure. Roy always spoke his mind and called it as he saw it. He was known for being outspoken but would admit or apologize when he was in the wrong. Roy's life was sports and coaching youth as well as being a referee. Roy was respected and looked up to by "his kids" because he was always there for them.

Roy was happy when he received letters to comment on his column "It's My Call". To him it meant people were reading what he had to say and they took the time to write.

What happened to Roy was a very sad, tragic accident and he will be greatly missed by many and by us at the West Elgin Free Press.

Our Deepest Sympathies go out to his family and to Nancy. Barb



Elgin-Middlesex-London MP Gar Knutson was in West Elgin last week to discuss the Eco-Communities Program with local residents. Here, Hazel Stalker talks with Knutson with regards to the accessing funds from the program for West Elgin.

WEST LORNE'S 4th ANNUAL SANTA CLAUS PARADE



BEST ENTRY AWARDS

BEST ILLUMINATED

Women's Institute

YOUTH

Tiny Tots

SERVICE CLUB

Shriners of London

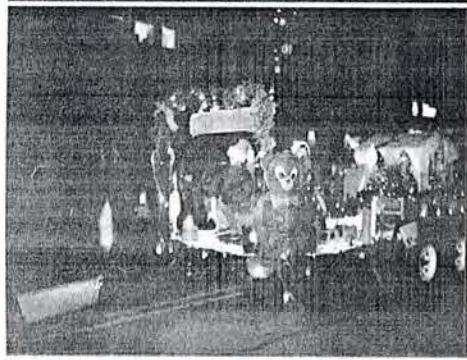
BEST COMMERCIAL

T.L.C.

BEST NON-COMMER-

CIAL

Sudicky



Warm & Woolly

The staff of the Bank of Montreal in West Lorne wish to thank all those who helped out with their "Warm & Woolly" tree. Here, bank employees Marlene Goos, left, and Andrea Noah check out one of the many mittens, scarves, gloves and hats that were generously donated.

DEC 1998

St. Mary's - St. Helen's Parishes remembers one of their own

Members of St. Mary's and St. Helen's parishes gathered together at St. Mary's to remember one of their favourite priests Father DeJonge at a special mass held in his honour.

For years the 7:30 Children's Mass was celebrated by Father DeJonge so members of the parish and Father Paquette thought it was fitting to honour the Father at this mass which he loved doing, because he loved the children of the parish so much as they loved him in return.

It has only been a short time since the Father has left us and

in the words of Father Paquette 'This Mass is for Father James DeJonge a friend of this parish for over 40 years and it is only fitting that we should have some kind of memorial to remember his contribution to this parish'.

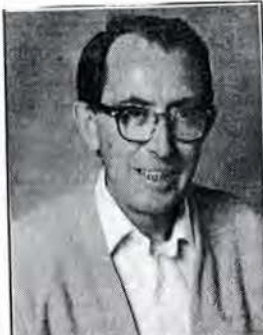
After a short sermon Father Paquette blessed the plaque which will be placed in the church by the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima.

And then the members of the congregation and the little ones sang the song that was played at Father DeJonge's funeral 'On Eagles Wings'. As the melody of the song unfolded

the angelic voices of the children reached a crescendo that surely could be heard in heaven by their beloved Father who they have missed so much.

Father DeJonge performed his first Mass at St. Helen's Church in Wallacetown in 1950.

It was a very special ceremony and although Father DeJonge may be gone his memory will always burn brightly in the hearts and minds of those he touched during his tenure at St. Mary's and St. Helens.



Father Ron Paquette

The parish family of St. Mary's-St. Helen's wish to invite friends and parishoners to a pot luck dinner immediately after the 11:30 mass Sunday June 8th, to be held at St. Mary's Hall in West Lorne.

This will be a farewell dinner for Father Ron Paquette prior to leaving for his new appointment.

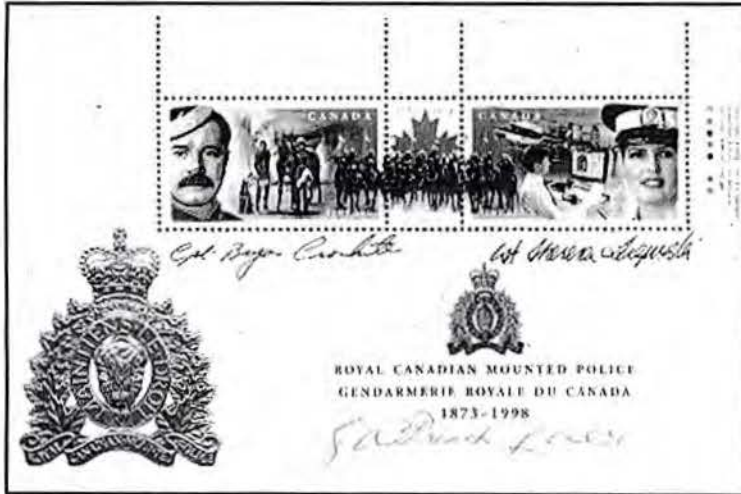
Father Paquette has served St. Mary's-St. Helen's for the past 9 years and it is with a feeling of sadness that the congregation bids him good-bye and goodluck with his new posting.

Since Father's arrival in West Lorne a new parish hall and rectory have been built and he also was instrumental in bringing about the amalgamation of two schools, St. Mary's and St. Thomas More by providing the necessary space needed for a playground. His achievements, despite his illness, have added greatly to not only the Catholic community but to the Village of West Lorne and for this we say thank you...



Always remembered- This special plaque was dedicated to the memory of Father DeJonge for his years of dedication at a special mass that was held recently, at St. Mary's Church in West Lorne.

A GREAT HONOUR



The young gentleman on this postage stamp was originally from this area. His name is Brian Cronkite, now from Winnipeg where he lives with his wife and two children. Brian's father Clifford passed away a few years ago and his mother Pat lives in Godrich. Brian went to College in London and then joined the R.C.M.P. This is a great honour and he was chosen because of his outstanding record. The stamp is uncirculated as of yet and it may take a few years for it to be out.

Wednesday January 6, 1999

WEST LORNE BUCKS DRAW



On Monday January 4th the lucky winner for the West Lorne \$1,000 Bucks. The draw was made by Councillor Trudy Balint. The Lucky Winner was Maxine Voll.

Government assistance too little too late: Mistele

JAN. Paul Mayne 1999
The Chronicle

According to Elgin Federation of Agriculture President Paul Mistele, hog farmers are "hunkering down in a siege mentality" with the province and its \$40 million aid package.

The emergency relief funding announced by the Ontario government, in conjunction with a \$1 billion federal aid package, have yet to be distributed to farmers in need. And when it is, not every hog farmer will be receiving help. Money from the assistance package will also go to help some cattle and crop farmers.

Application forms for receiving assistance are scheduled to be mailed out Jan. 20, with cheques to follow in February.

Mistele, himself a hog farmer, says despite still "losing \$2,000 bucks up the wazoo each week," he won't be receiving any assistance. He self-insured himself by diversifying his business to include other areas such as cash crop.

"I feel this aid package is too little too late," he says.

Farmers across the country began to feel the affect of dropping hog prices in November of last year after the evaporation of the Russian market and the collapse of the Asian economy. Prices dropped dramatically with farmers losing as much as \$100 per market hog around Christmas time. Prices have crept back to the level where farmers are losing \$60 per market hog.

Mistele says banks remain "on our side" as far as financial support is concerned, but adds suppliers are starting to make their move.

"Sort of a pre-emptive strike. Some have even taken it to court."

Mistele says that despite that the "media hoopla" is gone, this issue is "far from over."

Area hog farmers are taking their future into their own hands. A meeting is planned for this Wednesday (Jan. 13) at Quality Swine Co-op in Shedden where different marketing strategies plan to be discussed.

New club

West Elgin has itself a new club!

On Jan. 11, a meeting was held at the West Elgin Community Centre to form a new adult club. It was unanimously agreed on the name of the group to be the West Elgin Adult Club.

The next scheduled meeting is planned for Monday, Jan. 25 at 2 p.m. At this time the new slate of officers will be presented. Anyone interested in joining the club is welcome to attend at this time.

History in the making



The joining of two communities- The new council which will serve the residents of the new community of West Elgin were sworn in recently at the Aldborough Township Offices. From left to right back row the new members of council are: Mike Mooser, Trudy Balint, Brad Bandeen, Paul Gangle, and Bob Coles. Front row left to right: Graham Warwick (Deputy Mayor), Duncan McPhail (Mayor), Joanne Groch, (Administrator - Treasurer) and Rita DeWild (Clerk).

A new era begins for West Elgin residents

As with each new year it heralds a new beginning and a fresh start on the year ahead. The birth of 1998 ushered in a new age for residents of the area as the marriage of two communities was finally consummated with the swearing in of the new West Elgin Council which will lead us into the next millennium and beyond.

The official swearing in ceremony of the new Mayor, Deputy Mayor and councillors was held on Monday at Aldborough Council chambers.

The gala affair started off with the new Mayor, Duncan McPhail of the new municipality of West Elgin taking his oath of office and allegiance to serve queen and

country to the best of his ability.

The next one to be sworn in was Deputy Mayor Graham Warwick followed by councillors Brad Bandeen, Bob Coles, Paul Gangle, Mike Mooser and Trudy Balint.

After the council had been sworn in by administrator - Treasurer Joanne Groch, Rev. Colin Stover blessed the council

The passing of the ceremonial gavel from the old guard to the new Mayor was next as Ex- Reeve Harry Mezenberg transferred the traditional gavel of power to Mayor McPhail.

Once all the ceremonies were completed each member of the new council made a brief statement of their hopes and dreams for the new municipality of West Elgin. This is what they had to say : Mayor Duncan McPhail: He welcomed the new council to chambers and said that he thought that the mix of old and new faces would be a good mix to lead the new municipality into the next century. He especially welcomed the new members to the fold as their fresh ideas and new concepts would be helpful in forging the new council into an effective unit.

Deputy Mayor Graham Warwick stated that he felt that the mix of new and old would be up to the task of meeting the challenges that lay ahead.

Councillor Paul Gangle stated that he was honoured to be a member of the new council and that one of his pet projects would be to see if an amalgamation with Dutton Dunwich could be possible in the near future.

Councillor Mike Mooser stated that he was proud to be a member of the new council and that he would like all the other members of council would do their best in serving the residents of West Elgin.

Councillor Balint stated that she was honoured to serve on West Elgin's inaugural council.

Councillor Bandeen stated that he

was excited about being on council and that he looks forward to helping meet the challenges that lay ahead for the new municipality.

Councillor Coles stated that he looks forward to helping to make West Elgin a prosperous place for residents to live in.

After each councillor made their brief statements the new council got right to business and passed a few standard by - laws that are needed to form any new council.

Some of the problems that the new council will have to face in the coming year is what to do about library services in our area because of a reduction in funding from the county level.

Finding ways to cut costs on existing services without reducing the level of service we now enjoy without raising taxes or imposing user fees on local taxpayers.

Probably the most monstrous problem will be that of the costs of policing.

Another task the new council will face is what to do about the West Lorne Town Hall.

These are just a few of the many issues that are on the plate for the new council. It will be interesting to see how they will tackle these problems and the solutions they choose to make West Elgin a prosperous place to live and work in.

The next council meeting is on January 22/98.

The Kiwanis Shopping Spree Winner Was David Wheeler \$ 500



It was a changing of the guards this past week as outgoing-Reeve Harry Mezenberg presented West Elgin Mayor Duncan McPhail with the gavel to officially signify the beginning of a new era of council in West Elgin.

WESS ATHLETES OF THE YEAR



Athlete of the Year awards were recently handed out at West Elgin Secondary School. Pictured here are: (left to right) Senior Athletes of the Year Mac Littlejohn and Sylvia DaSilva and Junior Male Athlete Simon Ecker. Absent is Jun Female Athlete Jody McLachlan.



Pictured are Robert Thibert, Principal of St. Mary's and St. Thomas More School, Father O'Donnell, Dillon Pinter and Bonnie Roest cutting the ceremonial cake at the closing ceremonies of St. Thomas More School. Photo by Brian Outhouse

St. Thomas More School... the closing of an era

by Brian Outhouse

Area politicians, teachers and teary eyed former students gathered at St. Thomas More School in Rodney to participate in the closing ceremonies of the school which saw hundreds of area children pass through its doors over the years.

The school was first built in 1956 when the board purchased four acres of land from Walter Zynski at a cost of \$3,500. Construction was started soon after and on September 9th, 1957 the two room school opened its doors to the public with an initial enrollment of 54 pupils.

The first Principal of the school was Miss Genevieve Heenan who taught grades 5-8 while Miss M.E. Friday taught the junior room which had 34 pupils.

As the years passed the two room school became cramped and in 1963 two more classrooms, two storage rooms and a custodian's

room were added to the school.

The school remained on it's own until it amalgamated with the Elgin County Separate School Board in 1969.

Attending the closing ceremonies of the school was Father O'Donnell who supervised the sod turning of the school back in 1957.

A Mass was held by Father Paquette from St. Mary's Church in West Lorne, but the students played an important role in the closing ceremonies as they took part in the ceremony by reading several passages from the scriptures.

Area politicians and teachers praised the staff and students of the school for their hard work and dedication to the betterment of the community and laying the groundwork for solid citizens.

Tears welled in the eyes of former students as the present students and the old school, were

blessed for the fast time and as the crowd filed out of the building, along with it went the many memories of their youth. The

school will sit idle, with only the faint echoes of children laughing and playing echoing from the hallowed halls of this grand institution.

Next Wednesday will be moving day for the teachers and staff of St. Thomas More as they

move to their new quarters at St. Mary's in West Lorne. The closing of the school will mean that all separate school students will

attend St. Mary's School after the Christmas break, making it easier for students, parents and staff alike to educate their charges.

The closing of the old school was an end of an era but it was also the dawn of a new age for the Separate School Board in this area

December 20, 1995

New Principal at Aldborough Public School

While most of us were enjoying the summer holidays the staff and caretakers at Aldborough Public School were busy cleaning halls, rooms, getting books ready and setting up this years curriculum under the watchful eye of A.P.S.'s new principal Betty Clements.

Betty comes to A.P.S. with years of teaching experience under her belt. Betty is no stranger to running a school the size of A.P.S. as she held Vice-Principal positions in Dutton and Edward Public School in St. Thomas.

She states that "she is looking forward to the challenge of being principal of A.P.S. and that she looks forward to working with her staff, students, and parents in the coming year."



Pictured is Aldborough Public School's new Principal Betty Clements who will be at the helm of the school. Betty is replacing former Principal Dave Ballantine who served Aldborough faithfully for many years. Photo by Brian Outhouse

SEPT 5/95

FEB. 21/96

A.P.S. Grade Two class dreams of Jurassic Park

by Brian Outhouse

Mrs. Mooser's grade two class at A.P.S. have just completed their studies on the dinosaur era and to celebrate, the class got a chance to make their own version of what dinosaurs looked like.

No, they didn't experiment with DNA like they did in the movie to make their creatures which roamed the earth millions of years ago.

The class made their creations from greenware clay with the help of Mrs. Fordham who instructed the youngsters in how to mold the

clay in various shapes to create their voracious looking beasts.

After, each student made their dinosaur Mrs. Fordham will take the creatures home with her and fire the clay, returning each piece to the class as a ceramic figurine.

The class will make a trip to the Children's Regional Museum in London in the near future to learn even more about dinosaurs.

It was a great way for the class to end this section of their studies where they learned all about these ancient creatures which controlled the earth for many years.



Pictured are some of Steven Spielberg's helpers, actually they are some of Mrs. Mooser's grade two class at APS. From left to right back row they are: Laura Ford, Scott Manneke and teacher Mrs. Mooser. (Front Row L-R) Erica Eckersley, Danielle Fordham, Instructor Mrs. Andrea Fordham, Terri Mosher, Steven Robertson and Blair Noddin. Photo by Brian Outhouse

March 5, 1996



VANDALS STRIKE -- Peter Soos is seen changing one of the many tires that were damaged by vandals recently in West Lorne.

Education Week took flight at W.E.S.E.S.

Students at W.E.S.E.S. ended their unit on flight with something a little unusual; a visit from the U.S. Coast Guard.

After making kites and learning all about flight in class, the youngsters had the opportunity to get up close and personal with the most advanced search and rescue helicopter in the world.

Lieutenant Kirk Pickering piloted the helicopter with two other U.S. Coast Guard crew members last Wednesday.

The \$4.5 million chopper is the same as one featured in the popular TV show Baywatch. The helicopter which visited West Lorne is part of Coast Guard Air Station Detroit, based at Selfridge Air Force Base in Michigan. Pickering told the excited students and staff that the helicopter is capable of flying up to 196 miles per hour, has two jet engines and is especially durable because it is made of composite materials.

Pickering said Coast Guard staff do a lot of public service appearances and the crew especially enjoys meeting with young people. Among the rescues Pickering and his crew have been involved with include the recent rescue of a Rodney area couple whose light aircraft landed in Lake Erie.

Vandals cripple West Elgin's school buses, kids get day off

By Brian Outhouse
Students in West Lorne, Rodney and Dutton area got an unexpected day off from school last week as some area youths vandalized several of the Board of Education's school bus fleet, which is housed in West Lorne.

The vandals broke into the school bus compound late Monday night and punctured holes in the tires of 22 school buses mak-

ing them inoperable for the Tuesday morning run.

According to a school board spokesman from St. Thomas, the vandals gained entrance to the compound by cutting a hole in the wire fence that surrounds the compound and then they proceeded to puncture the tires of the school buses with what police think was either an ice pick or an awl. The spokesman says the

vandals didn't seem to do any other damage to the fleet although the tire damage will cost the board several hundred dollars to repair or replace.

OPP are investigating and later last week had apprehended a few suspects for questioning.

It took repairman Peter Soos and other maintenance men all day to repair the damage done by the vandals.

May 13, 1996



U.S. Coast Guard Lieutenant Kirk Pickering talks about his helicopter to a group of students at W.E.S.E.S. last Wednesday. The helicopter landed in the schoolyard as part of Education Week activities at the school and as a fitting end to the students' flight unit.

(K. Robinet)