

# Health Unit Prepares For Swine Flu Epidemic

The Lanark, Leeds and Grenville Health Unit has requested 60,000 doses of swine flu vaccine to immunize residents of this area.

Director of the tri-county Health Unit, Dr. John Hodgkinson, said he has asked the Ministry of Health for that number of doses and has received no indications that his request will not be granted.

"Hopefully we will receive most of the vaccine in September before the flu season arrives," said the director.

Dr. Hodgkinson said details of the vaccination of area residents are now in the planning stages, but there is still a lot of further detail to work out.

A special immunization gun which Dr. Hodgkinson has not seen yet will be used for the mass immunization. Joan Willis, director of nursing services for the Health Unit, is to receive training in using the gun and, in turn, will teach local public health nurses to use it.

Dr. Hodgkinson and Miss Willis plan to attend a special meeting of Ontario's medical health officers in Toronto next week at which the finer details for the vaccination against swine flu will be worked out.

Preliminary information indicates the three counties will receive the vaccine in staggered amounts from September to December. Immunizations are to be carried out by local public health nurses and shots will not be available privately from family doctors.

Priority will be established by the Health and Welfare department but first doses will be given to those in essential services. Locally, arrangements will be made with medical staff of industries and institutions to have their employees, residents or patients immunized.

Shots will be administered free to people from 20 to 50 years of age, those over 65 and the chronically ill.

There are actually two vac-

cines available for area residents, explained Dr. Hodgkinson. The first will be a combination of a New Jersey swine flu vaccine and an Australian influenza vaccine. This will be available for people over the age of 65 and those with heart and lung trouble, diabetes and cystic fibrosis. People from 50 to 65 years of age do not require the vaccine, authorities have discovered.

The straight New Jersey swine flu vaccine will be given to persons between 20 and 50 years

of age. Those under 20 or those between 50 and 65 years of age will not be offered the vaccine because studies done in North America, Europe and Asia show persons between 50 and 65 have a high level of anti-bodies in their system to combat the swine flu.

Dr. Hodgkinson said persons under 20 were much less sick with the swine flu and death in this age group is very uncommon. Since the amount of vaccine is limited, these two age groups have been placed in low

priority or eliminated altogether.

Forty-three Ontario public health units will be administering the voluntary immunization program to residents in the fall. The province is buying the vaccine from the federal government and the province will bear the burden of expense for supplying the needle-type guns to health units.

An average of two guns per health unit has been set, said Dr. Hodgkinson, but the size of the unit and the numbers to be

vaccinated will be accommodated in each case. Each gun administers 700 shots per hour.

Local health boards will be responsible for the cost of staff, acquiring locations such as halls and school gymnasiums, and advertising.

According to Dr. Hodgkinson, the board will receive a 50 cent reimbursement for every shot administered, but it is not known yet if the local board can break even on costs.

"If we can arrange to do large numbers of people at any one

time we may be able to break even. But at this time it's hard to say."

Dr. Hodgkinson pointed out that 85 per cent of the local population lives in rural areas. He also noted that "we may or may not be struck by swine flu this year, it may hold off till next year, but it's almost dead certain that Australian influenza will hit us this year."

The director said that last year the influenza struck this area and a child in Carleton Place almost died with the illness.

## The Perth Courier.

An Independent Newspaper

Published in the Interests of Perth And District Since 1834

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE PERTH EXPOSITOR.

143rd Year

15c Per Copy

PERTH, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, AUGUST 5th, 1976.

Number 2

### \$2-Million Project

# Quick Nod Sought For Perth Shopping Centre

## 40 Per Cent Of Perth Shop Away From Home

A marketing feasibility study is expected to begin soon as an Ottawa developer prepares a bid to construct, on the outskirts of Perth, a \$2 million shopping centre about half the size of the County Fair Mall, the \$3.5 million centre built at Smiths Falls last year.

The proposed complex provides space for a grocery chain store, department store and a mall of smaller shops. Planning board members, last Wednesday, appeared to be in favor of the proposal.

If the project can begin without submitting the proposal and suggested zoning changes to lengthy debate and provincial government red tape, the developer says the shopping centre could be finished by the end of February, 1977. If legal matters appear to stand in the way, Fred Thoms, president of Shir-Tan Development Corporation Limited, said the project will be off.

One factor which could sway the project is that, according to Mr. Thoms, 40 per cent of Perth residents' grocery shopping is being done out of town, and he suggested the retail business is in the same situation. Deputy Reeve Dixon agreed with Mr. Thoms.

If it goes ahead, the centre will be built on 6.9 acres, south of the Scotch Line and west of Rideau Ferry Road, and will total over 70,000 square feet. The parking lot would be large enough for 350 vehicles plus adequate space for loading vehicles and staff vehicles.

The design of the building and the landscaping, the developer assured the planning board, would reflect the rural character of the community.

Fair Sweet, of the community advisory branch of the Ontario Ministry of Housing, cautioned that that project should go through the "proper channels" — meaning both government involvement and allowing for public input. Ms. Sweet advised that an amendment to the Official Plan containing policies dealing with a major commercial development such as a shopping centre would be necessary. She also stated that the ministry would require a market feasibility study to determine the overall effect on the town, particularly the business core.

"It should be taken seriously," she said. "It is an important step with a crucial effect on the town."

Mr. Thoms said the procedures mentioned by the government representative would delay the project eight months to a year and he did not want to "sit on this land" that long. Construction costs would increase in that time, it was suggested.

Mayor Carl Greer replied, "It seems to me that a public meeting would be good public relations and there would probably be supporters of the project there as well as those opposed to it. If 40 per cent of the grocery business is going out of town."

A public meeting would be necessary if a land use amendment is required to allow the project.

"To us, time is of the essence," the developer said.

As the town's land zoning regulations have not yet been officially approved as a bylaw and as it now reads, there is no

classification to specifically designate a shopping centre area, the town could issue a building permit for the project prior to making changes in the zoning for that area.

However, special conditions might be required in the permit to provide the municipality with some say in the project other than, just in regard to basic structural standards.

The County Fair Mall shopping centre at Smiths Falls was built at a cost of \$3.5 million on 14.3 acres. It has space for 40 stores and parking for 1,000 vehicles.

In the proposal for Perth, the shopping centre would include a grocery store, small department store and the developer suggested that the smaller shops might include a hardware store, bank, discount drug store and fabric store. Space for offices might also be provided.

Consideration has been given to constructing the centre in two phases, but, due mainly to costs, the developer felt it would be "better to do it all in one swoop."

Mayor Greer said the town is in agreement in principle with the shopping centre proposal. "Knowing we would be faced with it eventually and preferring the site chosen in this plan to others."

He noted there is a need for another grocery store and it is more likely to come as part of a shopping centre than on its own.

## Escapee Gets 60-Day Term

Armand Joseph Demers, alias Raymond Michael Bull, was given a 60-day sentence on a charge of escaping lawful custody, when he appeared in provincial court Tuesday.

Demers was charged with escaping custody after he climbed over a wall of the local jail June 18. He had been incarcerated while awaiting a preliminary hearing on a charge of armed robbery resulting from the theft of \$850 from a Smiths Falls hotel April 24.

Another single-vehicle collision Saturday in South Sherbrooke Township, two miles south of Highway 7, ended in \$2,000 damage to a pick-up truck driven by Harold Strong of RR 2, Mab-

AREA HOME RENEWAL PROGRAMS GET GRANTS

Beekwith Township will receive an advance of \$17,000 towards a home renewal program, according to information released this week by Doug Wiseman, MPP, Lanark, along with an indication by Hon. John Rhodes, Minister of Housing, that further funds may be available.

Carleton Place will also receive \$300,000 to help improve and conserve residential neighborhoods.



THIS LARGE Sawyer and Massey steam tractor overshadows seven-year-old Robbie Dyke as he took a walk into history during the Middleville Pioneer Days last weekend.

## Middleville Pioneer Days Draw Record Crowds

The largest crowd in the seven-year history of the Lanark Township Pioneer Days attended the two day event at Middleville last Sunday and Monday.

Rodney Stead, chairman, said every event had record crowds and perfect weather attracted about 20,000 people.

The Monday parade of antique machinery and cars was by far the longest and ribbons given to each entry were gone before all entrants, estimated at nearly 200, registered.

One of the most popular events was the entertainment provided by Mac Beattie and the Ottawa Valley Melodiers with vocalist Bonny Beattie and M.C. Max Keeping of CJOH. Also entertaining during the Sunday show was impersonator Fred Little of Ottawa.

Organizers ran out of chickens for the Sunday afternoon barbecue but managed to hold the line with 1250 chickens Monday.

Pioneer Queen this year was

Sheila Lalonde of Lanark. Sheila along with runner-up Cathy Prettly of Rosetta, were judged among six entrants in the contest.

Area fire departments entered into the festivities with the Almonte Department displaying their aerial ladder truck during a demonstration Monday. By comparison, the Smiths Falls Department demonstrated their capabilities with an old 1938 Ford truck that pumped only 80 gallons per minute.

Guest speaker at the opening church service Sunday was the Hon. A. B. R. Lawrence, Chairman of Ontario Heritage Foundation.

The antique machinery demonstrations, the small antique displays, plus the dog show, greasy pig, tug-o-war, and home craft displays were all attended by record crowds.

Listing of winners in the various contests will be published next week.

## Pedestrian And Motorist Killed In Area Accidents

Two separate tragedies resulting in death on Saturday marred the holiday weekend for highway police in the area.

Killed in two separate accidents were Randal Legree, 17, of RR 2, Almonte and Dennis J. Majury, 20 of 234 Miguel St., Carleton Place.

Legree, pronounced dead at the scene, had been a pedestrian on Highway 29, less than a mile south of Almonte, when he was struck by a vehicle that was passing another car, said police.

Driver of that vehicle was Peter J. Manion, 32 of 42 Mill St., in Almonte.

Authorities said Manion was northbound when the mishap occurred. Investigation is continuing.

The second victim, Dennis Majury, also died at the scene as a result of a one-car collision on a Ramsey Township road, about three miles north of Highway 7, shortly after 5 p.m., Saturday.

According to Ontario Provincial Police, Majury had been westbound on a left curve when he lost control of his car which skidded into the ditch, struck an embankment and overturned.

A passenger in the vehicle, Terrance W. Priosto, 20, of Carleton Place, suffered bruises and was taken to a Carleton Place hospital by ambulance.

Also that same day, police investigated a one-car accident on Highway 29, half a mile north of Carleton Place that resulted in \$2,400 damage.

James G. Crampton, 17, of Carleton Place was travelling north, said police, and in attempting to avoid collision with an oncoming car that was passing another vehicle, pulled onto the shoulder of the road, slid into the ditch and overturned.

He sustained bruises and has been charged with not wearing a seat belt.

Another single-vehicle collision Saturday in South Sherbrooke Township, two miles south of Highway 7, ended in \$2,000 damage to a pick-up truck driven by Harold Strong of RR 2, Mab-

erly.

Police reported that Strong was eastbound when his car swerved off the road and smashed into a telephone pole on the south side of the highway.

The driver escaped injury and no charges have been laid.

Sunday, August 1, Michael Potts, 21, of Carp sustained minor injury when the car in which he was a passenger overturned about four miles west of County Road 1.

Driver was Gregory Allison of Ottawa. Police said he had turned his vehicle to avoid hitting an animal and lost control when the car struck gravel.

Damage amounted to \$350. B. Echlin, was taken to Perth hospital after he sustained fractures in a mishap on a Dalhousie Township road, about a mile north of County Road 12. Sunday evening.

Police said the motorist was heading south when his car left the road, travelled into the ditch, struck a rail fence and finally hit a boulder. The car overturned and came to rest on its side.

Thomas Echlin of Windsor, a passenger in the car, suffered cuts and bruises.

Echlin's station wagon received \$8,000 damage.

Perth OPP investigated 10 motor vehicle collisions during the long weekend, including the two fatalities.

## Nurse Layoffs Concern CAS

Stephen Heder, director of the Board of Children's Aid Society has expressed the board's serious concern about recent layoffs of public health nurses by the Leeds, Lanark and Grenville Health Unit.

Mr. Heder, in a short news release, said the reduction in the number of nurses will deprive many families and children in the area of the care they need.

## Glen Tay Road Race Aug. 12th

Put your running shoes on — the great Glen Tay Block Race is on for another year.

Once again runners from across south-eastern Ontario will pit their strength and endurance against each other to see who will finish the ten-mile jaunt in record time, or for that matter, who will finish it at all.

It is expected that at least 100 runners will be out this year compared to the 70 people who participated in 1975, says Peter Code, one of the organizers of the event.

It was 69 years ago that the first Glen Tay Block race took place and was won by E. B. Code, Peter's father. Since then the race has had its ups and downs, but in 1967, organizers reactivated it for Old Home Week.

Each year since then, the race has been faithfully held, with participants lining up on Gore Street to run the route around the block.

The start-finish line this year will be in front of the museum, with starting time scheduled at 6:30 p.m., next Thursday, August 12.

The route is as follows: up Gore to Isabella, from Isabella left to Wilson, right from Wilson to Sunset Blvd., from Sunset left to Glen Tay, left at Glen Tay to Scotch Line, left at Scotch Line to Gore and down Gore to the museum.

There are four categories for entrants: Junior, under 20 years; Masters, 40 and over; Ladies and an open category.

Top winner will receive the W. A. Wilson Memorial Trophy, and prizes will be awarded to the first 100 finishers.

The race is sponsored by the Perth Branch of the Seaway Valley Track Club and the Canadian Legion. Organizers are Gus Canuel, Tom Graham and Peter Code.

## Relinquishes Crown

Michelle Hughes, holder of the Miss Eastern Ontario title, has decided to pass her crown to another because of conflicting duties.

Michelle recently resigned the title when she found the duties of Miss Eastern Ontario interfering with her present work and plans for the future.

Her crown now goes to Dianne Gagnon, 19, of Brockville. Miss Gagnon was first runner-up in the pageant in both 1975 and 1976.

Since receiving the Miss Eastern crown, Dianne has appeared in parades in Smiths Falls Old Home Week and acted as a judge in the Miss Almonte pageant.



ORGANIZERS of the seventh annual Pioneer Days, held at Middleville last weekend, were not expecting the record number of entries in the antique parade which attracted 200 entrants. Record crowds also attended the two-day event.

## Weather Blamed For Decline In Tourism Throughout Area

Tourism in the area seems to be on a down swing this year, and camp owners and park officials are blaming it on the weather.

Vic Lemieux, tourist director of the Perth Chamber of Commerce and the owner of Norvic Lodge and Marina, says reports from the Ivy-Lea International Bridge show American traffic across the border is considerably down over 1975, and previous years.

He said the St. Lawrence Parks Commission also reports a drop in the number of tourists in that area.

Most of the decline has been noticed among the transient tourists — people who just stop off at spots as they travel, not making beforehand reservations.

"This transient trade is down very, very much over other years," said Mr. Lemieux.

At his own lodge, said the tourist director, only two or three 'drop-ins' have registered "and that's way less than other years," he noted. He said a similar trend has been experienced by other camp and cottage owners in the area.

However, sales outlets don't seem to be suffering from any effects. Mr. Lemieux said a spot check of retail sales in both the St. Lawrence and Rideau areas revealed they are "on par" with figures for other years.

As well as blaming the colder weather, the Chamber member thought that more Americans may be staying home this year because of Bi-centennial celebrations taking place in their country.

But, another tourist operator, Ben Barbary in Maberly, is putting the whole blame on the wet and cool temperatures.

"Actually it's not fair to compare the two years because last year was fantastic, weather-wise. We may never get another one like it," he said.

As to the effects, it depends on what business you're in, commented Barbary. He claims that, personally, his business is having a good year, but then he has a restaurant-grocery outfit. "It's the 'off-the-road-spots and campsites that are not doing as well,'" he said.

"I talk to my suppliers in milk

and ice-cream and they say business is down," he added.

The Ministry of Natural Resources, although experiencing quite an increase of over-all visitors to its provincial parks, reports that the number of campers is down about 1,000 throughout the Ottawa, Kingston and local areas.

Total number of campers for the month of July in 1975 was 7,000 compared with 6,000 for the same period this year. Total number since the beginning of the season was 12,000 last year as to 10,000 this year.

But one very noticeable difference this year is the number of campers staying in the parks even on the wet and miserable weekends. Although over-all figures show their numbers are down for the month, each weekend has seen capacity attendance. Last year, even with beautiful weather, the same did not occur.

Although tourists may not be camping and travelling in droves this year, they apparently are still showing a great interest in the subject, according to information from the Eastern Ontario Travel Association.

A release distributed by the association says newspaper ads in Toronto, Montreal, Syracuse and Buffalo had drawn over 4,000 inquiries by early June, representing a growth of 70 per cent over inquiries received in 1975.

Final tally has been estimated at somewhere between 5,000 and 6,000.

The Association attributes the increase in interest to several factors, including the Montreal-Kingston Olympics, the American Bicentennial and economic recovery south of the border.

## BURSARIES ANNOUNCED

The Perth Lionette Club is pleased to announce that two bursaries will be given to Perth and District Collegiate students requiring financial assistance to further their education. Applications should be forwarded to: Lionette President Mrs. May Porubovic, 108 Peter St., Perth, Ontario.