

HAGERSVILLE Highlights

Merchants Seek More Names On Petition

The Hagersville Businessmen's Association wants more signatures on its petition for better water and an expanded sewage system in the village.

By Monday they had collected 360 signatures

less than half of their goal.

The Association feels they should have a minimum of 80 per cent of the eligible voters in Hagersville behind them in order to pull weight at the Town of Hal-

imand, regional and provincial levels. At the last election there were 1200 voting persons in the village.

Signing the petition is not restricted to a property owner. Any person 18 years of age and over and living within the village limits qualifies. Organizers feel many persons were confused on this issue.

Those collecting signatures say the response from the elderly residents has been very good. It's the younger citizens who aren't turning out. The petition is at Bailey Hardware and will be on the market square again Friday night from 7 - 9.

Tour Taquanyah Conservation Area

Mrs. L. Broker, teacher at Northview Public School, Hagersville, together with her students of both grades two and three, enjoyed an interesting science lesson recently.

They travelled by bus, leaving the school at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday,

June 6 and visited the not too distant Taquanyah Conservation Area. Several volunteer mothers and friends accompanied the children on this see - at - first - hand nature and science trip through the many acres of Taquanyah.

Decoration Day Service Held In Hagersville

Perhaps the weather being extremely hot and sunny, was the cause of the poor attendance at this year's annual Decoration Day Service held at the Hagersville Cemetery on Sunday, June 9 at 3 p.m.

This event which is planned each year by one of the organizations in the area, was under direction of the Hagersville Volunteer Firemen this year.

The colorful parade departed from the Hagersville Legion, Branch 164, at 2:00 p.m., parading from Alma North, King East to the Main Corner, and thence South on Main to the Hagersville Community Centre. Parade Marshall of the afternoon was Comrade Omar Phillips of Branch 164, while the music for the parade as well as the accompaniment for the Hymns at the cemetery was supplied by The Legion Western Ontario All Star Band.

Chairman was John Kincaid, in the absence of Fire Chief William McClarty. The Call of Worship and the Invocation was delivered by Rev. C.L. Warriner of the Hagersville Pentecostal Church. Words of welcome to everyone present were expressed by Mr. William Knowles who commended the entire community for paying tribute to those who had gone before.

Those who took part in the program by the placing of wreaths were: Town of Haldimand-Mr. Lyle Furry; The Canadian Legion and Auxiliary - Mrs. Joyce McClarty and Mrs. James Stinson; The Odd-fellows and Rebekahs - Mrs. Hilda Atkinson and Mrs. Fred Smith; Masons and Eastern Star - Mrs. Maude Smith and Mr. Robert

Shoup; Lion's Club-Mr. Jim Misener; Cubs and Boy Scouts; Brownies, Girl Guides and Rangers - Frances Dykstra and Kim Smith; Hagersville Firemen - Mr. Caldwell Kett; Knights of Columbus - Mr. Tony Pierroz.

Last Post and Reveille were played by Mr. Andy Sabola, interspersed with one minute of silence in memoriam. Rev. Donald Eustace of the All Saints Anglican presented the First Lesson, while Rev. C. Warriner read the Second Scripture Lesson. An appropriate memorial prayer and the Lord's Prayer were given by Rev. Martin Rule, of the Hagersville United Church.

Mr. Kincaid, in introducing the speaker of the afternoon, Rev. A. Thomson of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Hagersville, noted the Presbyterian church would soon be celebrating their 100th anniversary, and stated plans and preparations were now being made for such a historical event. Rev. Thomson, in commencing his interesting words, stated "all of us present, are always conscience of the fact, that time marches on, waiting for no man,.... however, it is important that memory forever lingers". He mentioned "as it is here today, as we who are in attend-

ance, are standing between those gone on, and the living. Moses told the children of Israel, that they must not forget this day, and so it is with us, we must not forget our departed families, but remember them with this appropriate service, held in their memory."

Further, he said "thirty years have passed, since the great allied forces landed on the beaches of Normandy, and so have rolled past us the years of history, with many changes and great chaos". Rev. Thomson said in the Book of Scriptures, many times the word "Selah" is printed, which he said means "to pause and think", and that is what we are doing today under this beautiful blue canopy of heaven, with God's breeze and the colourful flags flying high to show to all what they stand for."

Colour bearers in the parade represented Legion Branch 164, Legion Auxiliary 164, Rebekahs, First Hagersville Scout Pack, K. of C. 609, Legion Branch 576, Teeterville, Legion Auxiliary 576, Teeterville. Members of a Hamilton Cadet Army Unit, headed by A. Smith, Railway Street, Hagersville, also assisted in making the parade a colourful event.

Apprentice At Summer Theatre

Jackie Gibson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.J. Baigent of Cayuga and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hodgson, Alma Street North, Hagersville, will work as a

Summer Theatre Apprentice at the Georgian Theatre Company's 1974 Summer Season. The production will be presented July 2nd to August 31st at the Georgian College Theatre in Barrie.

Jackie, a former student at Hagersville during the time she resided here, is now living in Orillia and is one of the eight apprentices selected to take part in the Theatre Apprentice-ship Program.

This presentation is in co-operation with the professional Georgian Theatre Company.

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History Of Hagersville

DEVELOPMENT OF HAGERSVILLE

In general this section deals with the commercial progress of Hagersville during the past one hundred and twenty - five years.

"The early history of Hagersville commences with the year 1845 when Davis Hager erected the first buildings in the town. They were a log house and blacksmith shop located on the north west corner of the Plank Road and Indian Line (Main Street and King Street).

Even at that time the early settlers must have been impressed with the idea that a future awaited the town for at the "raising" it was decided to give the village a name. The late Joseph Seymour selected Hagersville in honour of the pioneer builder, and as such it has since been known.

About 1854 Charles and David Hager bought a large tract of land on the Walpole side of the town, and a portion of it was laid out into lots. On the Oneida side Mr. D. Almas also had a portion of his land surveyed into lots, new buildings were erected and the little hamlet continued to grow. Haskett's store, Hager's store, two Hotels, John Lewis' Grocery, John Jeston's Carriage Shop, Wm. Harrison's Shoe Shop, John Kenner's Blacksmith Shop, with a few private houses, constituted the village up to 1860". This optimistic section was published in the 1908 "Illustrated Trade Edition of Hagersville".

The village was then of little importance except as a stop for the stage coach which made the trip from Hamilton to Port Dover daily along the new Plank Road.

By 1864 Hagersville had grown to be a town of over 100 people. There were three hotels in town with keepers David Almas, Benjamin Hemstreet and A. McDonald, two grocery stores, three blacksmith shops, two wagon makers, two tailors, three general merchants, two carpenters and two doctors, making a total of about twenty businesses.

The "Trade Edition of Hagersville" continues: About 1866 Henry Byers opened a Harness Shop, Luther Walker a Tailor Shop, Joseph Seymour purchased John Jeston's business. Shortly after S. W. Howard opened a Drug Store and Joseph Cooper the first butcher shop. The old state line from Hamilton to Port Dover was conducted by D. Almas while Pete Burley looked after the comfort of the passengers in those primitive

days. At that time there were twenty-five hotels between here and Hamilton, a distance of twenty - three miles. Today there are eight over the same route".

The building of the Canadian Southern in 1870 and the Hamilton and Lake Erie Railway in 1871 added greatly to the town's growth and development.

"Shortly after this J.H. Porter had a number of lots surveyed and erected a Hagersville's growth in the late 1870's was rapid. Soon after the railroad came through the town experienced a building boom. A lot of new stores and houses sprang up including a steam agricultural implement factory, a steam grist mill and a stone quarry.

A personal description of the town in the 1880's is found in the following article titled "Hagersville Fifty Years Ago", written by Murray Awde in 1937. "What progress has Hagersville made during the last fifty years? In preparing this series of articles for the Press, the writer found it difficult to decide where to begin. The available data covers many phases of progress, all of which are of interest, and the introductory article will deal with the places of business in the village at about the time of its incorporation in 1887.

Fifty years ago, Garnet, Selkirk, Nanticoke and other nearby competition as trading centres, probably because of their location nearer the lake, where the original settlers located. As the population of the district increased, settlers moved further inland. Hagersville's situation at the junction of the railways and the growing demand for the products of its quarries, no doubt contributed to its growth. The progressiveness of its merchants must also have been a factor in bringing trade. There were some fifty-three places of business in operation in 1887.

Fiddler Contest

Many interested "Fiddler lovers" from Hagersville and area attended the first-time venture of such a contest, sponsored and arranged by the Cayuga Lions.

This competition, parade and all festivities concerned with the event was held in Cayuga on Saturday, June 8th when many enjoyed the fine showmanship and competition.

number of fine buildings doing his share in the advancing and progress of the village".

When he moved to Hagersville in 1875, Henry Hammond gave this description of our town: "It was all prime woods right up to King Street, with only one or two houses between mine and the main intersection. The business section was small with the following buildings, Hager's General Store, Proud's General Store, Lewis' Grocery Store, Howard's Drug Store, The Old Village Hall, and the Seymour Home which was one of the finest buildings of the time.

The Ways and Means Committee reported that the dance held April 20th was successful and

Selkirk Community Recreation Club Report

The following article is a report of the May meeting of the Selkirk Community Recreation Club.

The Liaison committee reported on the progress of the plans for paving the parking lot next to the town hall. The area has been fully staked out and arrangements made to remove the extra top soil and trucking for remaining crushed stone for the base. The sockets for the posts are being purchased and final approval for the paving contract was confirmed. Paving is to begin about mid June, weather permitting. Club members were asked to suggest a suitable name for the area.

The Ways and Means Committee reported that the dance held April 20th was successful and

realized a profit of about \$65.00. There are no more dances planned until the fall.

A lengthy report was given by the Grounds committee. A recently retired gentleman has indicated an interest in the job of park caretaker and grounds keeper. It was mentioned that the tile drainage placed in the diamond last fall, seems to be doing a good job draining both the diamond and the area to the west of the left field area. A general cleanup planned for Thursday, May 9, was rained out and another night will have to be set up.

A Booth Committee consisting of Ruth Thomson as chairman, Connie Sher, Karlene House, Bev Bassindale and Jean Hoover was set up to look after stocking and establishing a

roster for the booth for the 1974 season.

Lindsay Hardware is to look after booking the ball diamond for 1974. Also a new set of bases for the diamond are being purchased.

It was suggested that the meeting be moved out of the main hall and that one of the other rooms be used. This is being looked into for future meetings.

The next meeting of the club will be on Thursday, June 6 at 8:30 p.m. in the Centennial Hall.

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Recently arrangements were made for a group of Indian children to attend the public school in a northern Ontario town. The principal of the school in the town was aware that Indian children sometimes had a rough time at the hands of other students, and to try to forestall this kind of situation, he called in a Human Rights Commission counsellor to talk to the other children. The counsellor asked the children if any of them had ever moved to a new school, and what they thought it would feel like if they were the strangers. In this way he helped them understand how the Indian children would be feeling when they arrived, and the integration proceeded relatively smoothly.

Community counselling is one of the major roles of your Ontario Human Rights Commission. We hold seminars and discussions with police in areas where there are communication barriers between them and minority groups, to help relieve ten-

sion and promote mutual understanding. We attend meetings of immigrants and native-born minority groups to explain to them both their rights under the legislation and their responsibilities as citizens of this Province.

We also help bring people into contact with local agencies like home-and-school groups, community and government agencies, and churches, which are available to help but which many people don't even know exist. Wherever there's a difficulty based on race, language, colour or creed, the Human Rights Commission is available to generate discussion and motivate people to develop understanding and respect for the other's point of view.

Our job is to help bring people together and encourage healthier relationships among all groups.

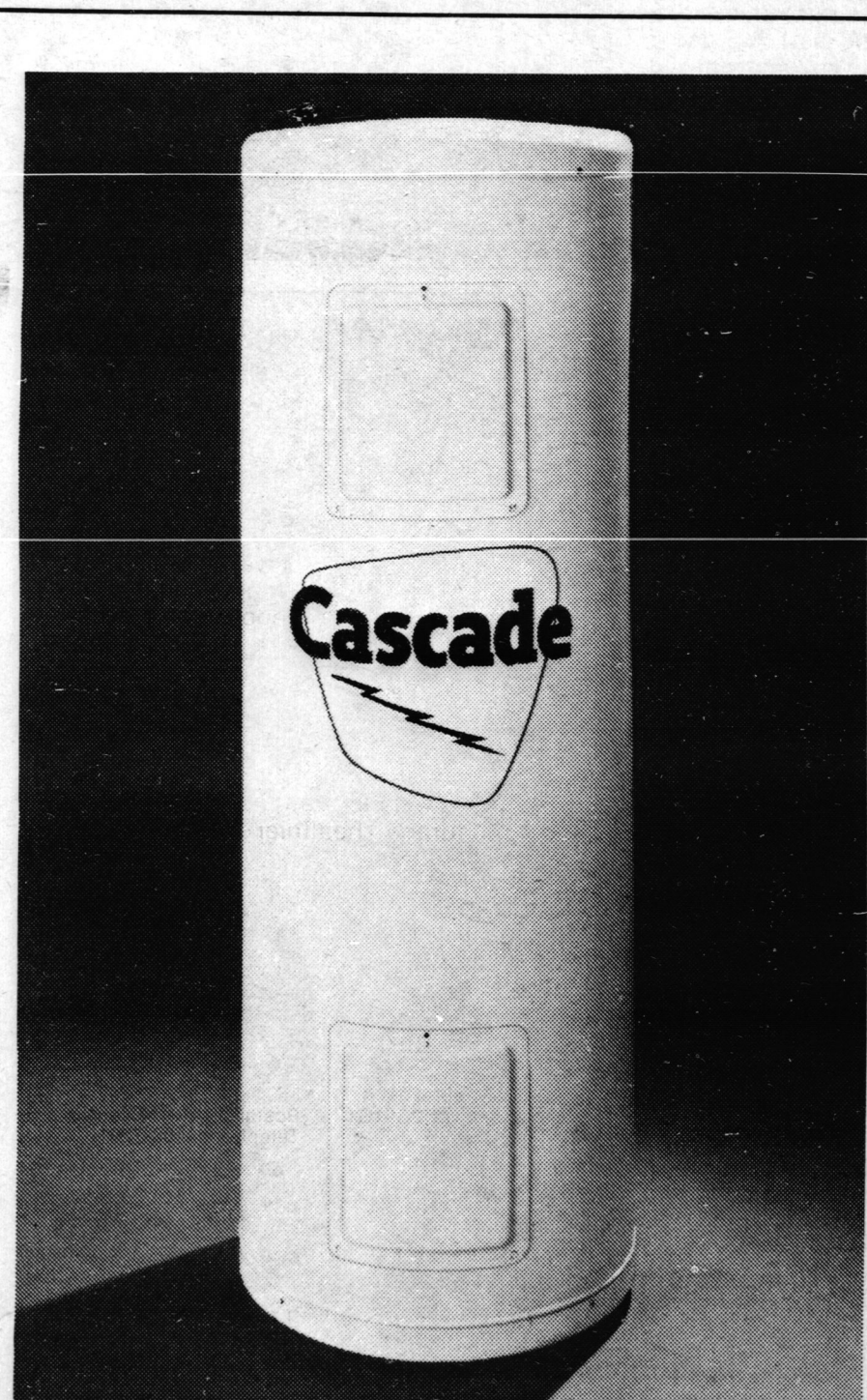
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