



Jerry Fasseel of RR 2 Port Burwell displays the tattered leaves of one of their tobacco plants. Six to eight leaves on pretty well the entire crop of Camiel Fasseel were damaged in this way. (staff photo)

Store celebrates 100th

by Richard Houghton

The general store has always been the focal point of a rural community, but for anyone living in the area between Port Ryerse and St. Williams one hundred years ago, the Normandale Store was indispensable.

When the only mode of transportation for people in this rural area was horse and buggies in the summer, and sleighs and cutters during the winter the next closest store was six miles away from Normandale in Vittoria.

This made an exceptionally cold winter drive for people living further down along the lake front.

The Normandale Store turns one hundred years old, this year and the present proprietors, Sam and Marjorie Kozak are holding an Old Boys Reunion on July 13, to celebrate the hundredth anniversary.

John Dey Post built and opened the original general store in Normandale in 1875. A close friend of the

Kozaks, was a neighbor and historian who lived next door to the store for 68 years. Grace Guller, who passed away recently, probably knew more about the store than anyone else around Normandale.

Another neighbour of the store is Mr. Ernest Post. He is 69-years-old and has lived in Normandale all his life.

"People in Normandale really depended on the store in those early days," said

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Official plan discussed

by Richard Houghton

Township of Norfolk Council met Monday afternoon to discuss Interim Planning Guidelines set down by the region that will ultimately lead to the drafting of an official regional plan.

The region has asked the area municipalities for their opinions regarding the guidelines which will eventually be incorporated into a regional strategy which will

in turn be incorporated into a Regional Official Plan.

The planning guidelines set down six areas of policy statement. These consist of interim urban policy, interim industrial policy, rural and resource development, transportation and public service, open space recreation, and conservation, and social development.

"All they are asking is, do we agree with this proce-

dure," said Mayor Jerome Van De Slyke. "This is what their suggestions are and I feel they will have to listen to our comments."

Council asked for clarification of a number of points in the general policy objectives to the planning guidelines.

Mayor Van De Slyke said that according to Bill 226 of the Ontario Municipal Board, continued page 5

Tobacco damage extensive

by Richard Houghton

At this time of year, tobacco farmers always view approaching storm clouds with mixed emotions. The clouds often bring much needed rain to the tobacco plants growing in dry ground. But also, in the back of the mind of the farmer, is the fear that the clouds may be bringing a hail storm that will damage the leaves.

These fears were realized for many area farmers last

Thursday when a hail storm ripped through much of southern Ontario's flue-cured tobacco crop.

Most of the damage was done in the western portion of Norfolk Township, but there was also considerable damage done in a large area of Nanticoke.

The Ontario Crop Insurance Commission and private insurance companies have had more than 250 reports of damage.

Officials of the tobacco board were optimistic that the damage from the hail was not too high.

Frank Goodyer, a specialist with the Ontario Crop Insurance Commission, recommended growers with claims leave the tobacco for a couple of weeks in order to more accurately assess the damage.

Tobacco board chairman Ted Raytrowsky said he thought the tobacco was still small enough to come back. The damage to him seemed to be "spotty."

However local farmers were not as optimistic as the insurance commission, and the tobacco board.

Camiel Fasseel operates a farm in the Houghton area, and although he couldn't give an estimate of the damage at the time said that at least six or seven leaves were damaged per plant on his farm. The plants average 18 leaves per plant after they are fully grown.

"The adjuster was around on the fourth, and said it was the worst damage he had seen so far," said Mr. Fasseel.

Mr. Fasseel has 32 acres of tobacco rights, and he said that all 32 acres were hit about the same, with six or seven leaves damaged per plant.

"I have it insured through a private company," said Mr. Fasseel. "But the insurance won't really cover the loss." "A farmer can put as much insurance on per acre as he wants, but if he puts so much on that he is completely covered for loss, it will cost him so much that it isn't worthwhile to grow the crop."

Mr. Fasseel said that most of his plants that are hit now, will lose the leaves within a weeks time.



Sam and Marjorie Kozak, operators of the Normandale Store, and their children Mark, 19, Roger, 17, and Louise, 14, are inviting everyone to an old boys reunion, commemorating the 100th anniversary of the store. (staff photo)