

Column 071115

We got a call from Grant Shepherd, who is trying to locate the memorial plaque that used to hang in the Legion Hall, back when Verona had one. (Branch 260 had the building that now houses Treasures 'n' Trash on Main St.) The plaque commemorates the Verona area soldiers who died in each of the two world wars, and Grant was under the impression that after a brief stint in the Sydenham Legion Hall, the plaque had been sent to Prince Charles P.S. to be hung there. That does not appear to be the case. It is entirely possible that someone is holding this important piece of local history for safe keeping. If you know anything about the mystery, could you give me a call so we can start a trace?

More good news for Main Street. A new business will soon grace the space beside Local Family Farms where "Simply Take Out" used to be. Sterling McCullough and Judy Nagle will be selling a combination of new and used goods, including Judy's glass mosaics and (eventually) Sterling's wood carving. By the reckonings of business gurus, what a village like Verona needs is "destination stores" – places that people will drive some distance to visit - and what with the Larmons' Treasures 'n' Trash and Deb Baergen's Jitterbugs, the draw is tripled for people who like to find nifty pre-owned treasures. Sterling hopes to be open by Dec. 1. (Thanks to the Joyful Beader Ken Brandly for this tip.)

Every year the Verona Community Association organises an afternoon of free skating at the Frontenac Arena to coincide with the schools' November PA day. This year's skate is sponsored, as always, by Revell Ford Lincoln and will be the week before the annual tree lighting. (The VCA decided that the tree lighting needs to be a fixed date – the last Friday of November - and PA dates change from year to year. This year's PA day falls the week before that.) So, bring all the kiddies (skates would also be a good idea) and some non perishable food for the Rural Visions Food stocks and come for the fun. Friday, November 23 12:30 – 2:00 at the Arena.

The next day, head over to Sydenham for a very special fundraiser. Leslie Reade and Josey Steel have organised the second annual VISIONSoup for Rural Visions. For \$20 you get a hand crafted bowl from a local potter (celebrated artisan Tim de Rose of Wilton Pottery donated half of them) and samples of soup from local restaurants and caterers – including Sydenham's Mill St. Café, Trios, Inverary's Garlic Fields and Verona's Moms to the Rescue. "It's a heck of a bargain," says Leslie. "The bowls alone retail for more than the ticket price." Ticket is the operative word here. Only 100 are available, so go to the Rural Visions Centre, Sydenham Chiropractic, Sydenham Veterinary Services or Trousdale's General Store to buy one before they sell out like they did last year. Nov. 24 11:30-1:30 Sydenham High School cafeteria.