

Column 080424

Congratulations to the cast and crew of Sydenham High's stellar production of "Lend Me a Tenor". It's the best show we've seen on that stage for some time. Our own Adrian Murray shone in a lead role, but the entire cast was magnificent. Bravo All.

And Bravo to the village of Verona, who showed up in force to welcome the Verona Drugmart, Hany Girgis, and his staff to the village. A small battalion of volunteers – Lions, VCA members and community folks arrived to cook & serve hot dogs & burgers, set up the ceremony and man the cash while crowds of customers checked out the store and availed themselves of the opening specials. What with the balloons and the face painting, it was a street event in itself. Hany sprang for the burgers, drinks and dogs, whose proceeds were then donated to the Verona District Medical Services Committee for doctor recruitment – and what burgers they were! Business neighbour Kim Perry of Local Family Farms furnished the beef from their own Maine Anjou cows. Hany's mom from California proudly stood in the cutting ceremony, and what with all the deputy mayors and wardens, councillors and even the inimitable Paddy O'Connor, town crier she must surely be pleased with her son's reception into his newest town. And what a town it is!

Here's a delightful account from Debbie Lingen of the last Sisters By Heart gathering. Thanks Deb: *If anyone was wondering where the women of Verona were on the evening of April 14th all they had to do was peek into the Verona First Methodist Church. The hall was filled to capacity by women and a few men happy to get away from the winter doldrums and cabin fever. Extra tables and chairs had to be brought in to accommodate everyone. This wonderful event sponsored by Sisters by Heart featured speaker Rhonda Spurrell. The theme of the night was "The Wrinkle free woman" - not the botox kind of wrinkles, but the metaphorical wrinkles of the mind and soul. The theme was playfully displayed in the wonderful antique centerpieces on each table that related to the art of Laundry. After a fun game of "match the slogan to the laundry product," we were entertained with a Red Neck Fashion Show. One example was a model wearing "knee socks" which was a humorous fashion of colourful socks taped to her knees. Everyone was in high spirits and Rhonda Spurrell sang two wonderful songs. What a beautiful voice! Then she gave a very inspirational talk blending it in brilliantly with the theme of the night - wrinkles, as related to laundry and metaphorically the soul. Even though the talk revolved around illness, it was a talk full of hope and not defeat. Congratulations to the Sisters by Heart for another incredible evening.*

Want to hear some of the finest singing in the area? Head to Trinity United this Friday for Black Ties and Blue Jeans – the best of Trinity Church United Choir with St. Paul's United Church Choir and friends. April 25 at 7:30. Free will donations to refurbish the sanctuary stained glass windows.

Saturday morning go to the market to get your Pitch In bag for cleaning up the area roadsides. Participants get a coupon for a free hot dog and drink at the market.

And next week's market features the South Frontenac Environment Committee's tree sale. Pick up your orders or buy by chance whatever stock is left.

Monday night is BINGO! The Verona Lions and Railton Knights of Columbus host a 15 game bingo with over \$300 in prizes. Share the wealth games, 50/50 draw, canteen. May 28. Verona Lions Club. Open at 6:00. Early bird game 6:50. Admission \$7 a six pack.