

# New bandshell spells the end of rainouts

**By Jennifer Bowman**

One rainy day in August of 2007 musician Ken Stapley challenged his audience to find a way to get a new bandstand at Zwick's Park in Belleville. The night before, Stapley's concert had been cancelled because of rain, and he'd been worried that day's concert would be cancelled as well. The second concert wasn't cancelled, but he approached the crowd about sending letters to the new council members to get a bandstand with a roof. The challenge landed back in his lap. "During the break, probably about 30 people came up to me and said, 'Why don't you do something about it,'" said Stapley. "So I said over the microphone that afternoon, 'Folks, I'll give it a try.'" That night he drew up a plan. He took it to an architect the next day. A year later, he presented it to the Belleville council. Council gave it the official approval in January, 2009. They started building in December, 2010. Now it's right on schedule for the grand opening on June 12 for the Show and Shine Car Show. The major construction is finished, the floors are going to be poured, and things are moving along very quickly on site, said Mark Fluhrer, parks, recreation & culture director of Belleville. The pavilion is replacing an old 1967 structure. The initial idea was to enhance the building by putting a roof on top. Then came the opportunity to get government funding.

They sat down and in a short time had a package to present to the Recreational Infrastructure Canada program to get funding for a more elaborate building, said Fluhrer. The new pavilion will seat between 400 and 500 people. It will be used along with the smaller pavilions in the park for events like Canada Day. It will also hold its own events. The pavilion isn't exactly what the committee had envisioned, but he thinks it's going to be great, said John Henderson, who is also on the committee and has emceed many events at the band shelter. They had envisioned the pavilion facing east, the same direction as the old band shelter. That would have provided protection from the wind as well as allowed people to sit on the hill during concerts. The intent was that we'd be able to have daily events that could bring family and friends together at the pavilion, said Stapley. That's what Fluhrer envisions for the pavilion's future. Like musical performances, theatre, public speaking, rallies, faith events, weddings, and an endless number of community events. For Stapley, pushing for a new bandstand was for the community, but it was also for his followers. "I've got a lot of people that I did this for," said Stapley. "They're my concert goers that have been following my concerts since, I've probably been performing there since, I think it was '73."



John Henderson stands in front of the new pavilion in Zwick's Park. The pavilion is taking the place of the 44-year-old band stand where Henderson has emceed many events. Photo by Jennifer Bowman

# County ditches well policy after residents complain

**By Nicole Kleinsteuber**

Prince Edward County council has dumped its new dug well policy after residents complained about water testing and water shortages. Citizens living in rural areas addressed council Tuesday night with formal deputations requesting the policy to be re-written or thrown out. "The problem with the new policy is the regulations in the policy are so restrictive that people don't seem to be able to meet them," said Sophiasburg town councillor Terry Shortt in an interview. Homeowners looking to sever a portion of their lot have to adhere to a new dug well policy put in place in June 2010. "It's discouraging to build a home in the county. We can't build a home and move ahead with our lives," said a speaker at Tuesday's meeting. The policy required residents to test their water from their well head and prove it's not contaminated. Residents have to work with hydro geologists and must pass the quality test with no contaminants. Well owners aren't allowed to treat the water or test it at the tap. In 2004 a Quinte Regional Groundwater Study found that the aquifers of Prince Edward County are extremely vulnerable to contamination. The study said 59 per cent of county inhabitants rely on ground water as their main source of water. Council accepted motions Tuesday from seven separate parties who pointed out the problems they've experienced with the water quantity and quality being pumped from their wells. Prince Edward County resident Barbara Belo spoke to council on behalf of Rui Belo and Lois and Larry Wannamaker. "I have put \$25,000 into pumping my wells. She says it's been a long and frustrating endeavor," said Belo. Pumping is a way to try and flush the well of any contaminants that might be in the water. Another speaker wanted the policy



Well driller Glendon McKee drills a well on a lot in Prince Edward County. Photo By Nicole Kleinsteuber

to include the monitoring of neighbouring wells. "There was a time where I had no water for three days due to well drilling. I had no water to brush my teeth with," said Prince Edward County resident Judy Zeleny. Another resident told council a water specialist told her she has to install a \$300 UV light to fix her well problem. Shortt said the well policy overlooked the fact there are technologies

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**Prince Edward County resident Judy Zeleny**

Prince Edward County Mayor Peter Mertens said there was an obvious problem with the policy and there was no easy fix to it. "We needed to get on with it and get rid of it and come up with a new one that suits everybody not just half the people," said Mertens. Mertens said when the last policy was put into place they went overboard and another policy will take its place. It will have a lot of the same items in it. The new policy will include remedies to water problems. "If you can't meet the quantity requirements of pumping a gallon per minute then you'll be able to install a trickle system. If you're unable to meet water quality requirements than you'll be permitted to treat the water. The new policy didn't include that. If you didn't meet quality requirements then residents weren't allowed to have it," said Mertens. Mertens said that residents aren't getting off "scott free" while council draws up another policy. "Reasonable people who want to sever that just want to get on with life couldn't do it. To put it on hold while we reviewed the policy and then have them have their severance lapse and then go through the whole process again while they've waited for years was unfair. You can have your severance because council is going to apply standards under the official plan which requires them to meet certain standards," said Mertens.

## BASE COMMANDER

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"A lot of people forgot what happened and moved on because of him," said Quinte West Councillor Doug Whitney. Cochrane is described by local officials as a man who represented the base at every local event and fundraiser. "He's got a great personality, fit perfect to provide the leadership and direction that we needed at that time," said Williams. Quinte West officials have worked diligently with Cochrane on numerous projects over the past year and are sad to see him go. "He always makes sure the air base is involved in the community. If he can't make an event or fundraiser then he sends a representative from the base," said Whitney. Cochrane has been working with a committee to build an Afghanistan repatriation memorial in Trenton. The memorial is dedicated to Canadian military personnel killed while serving in Afghanistan. The project is set to be completed in 2012. "Cochrane is a very approachable guy and I believe he will still make himself accessible if needed for the completion of the project," said Quinte West Councillor Paul Kyte. Cochrane has been chosen to continue on the Advanced Training List and attend the Defence and Strategic Studies Course at the Australian Defence College in Canberra next year. Cochrane is sad to leave but admits the opportunity in Australia is a set up in his career. "It's good for my career progression and it also allows an opportunity for Col. Friday coming in to take command who is a very personable family man and I think he'll work extremely well with base personnel and the community," said Cochrane. He said he is thankful for all the base personnel and community for their tremendous support. "I was amazed by the support from the community. We went through some challenging circumstances and I must say I have very fond memories of my time here in command. My family and I will never forget our time here at 8 Wing Trenton,"

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