

Column 080214

What a treat it is to have our farmers market back in session! What a hole it fills in our pantries and our Saturday social scene. Next week our local Heritage Society will be there in honour of Heritage Day. These folks are a wealth of information about all aspects of our area. Drop by to see what they set up this year. Saturday at the Lions Hall 9 – noon.

Speaking of the Lions Hall, the renovations are very close to finished, and the main hall is open again for rentals. Club members put hundreds of hours into moving walls, tearing out cupboards and fixtures, building, tiling, and rearranging in order to bring the hall into the 21st century. A new heating system with *air conditioning* puts the frosting on the cake. But the cake itself is the spanking new kitchen facility that will soon be ready for cooking up Saturday Market egg McLions.

Feb. 19 is a busy night. Take your pick from a number of fine activities: Sisters By Heart offer some laughter and fun in “Espresso Your Spirit” Guest Speaker Jen Wagar and Music by Cathy Casement. Tuesday Feb. 19 7PM at the Verona Free Methodist Church. \$5 at the door or advance. RSVP if you can, and bring a friend or two. 374-2587 or 374-1232.

The Verona Festival invites all its volunteers and anyone interested in the Festival to a pot luck. The planning committee brings enough homemade yummy stuff for all the volunteers and new folks, so you only need to show up for the good food. You watch a DVD of Festival highlights and get an overview of how things work. No need to RSVP. Just come the Lions Hall on Tuesday, Feb. 19 at 6:00. You won't be sorry.

The next day, Feb. 20, you have two chances to hear more about plans for medical services in Verona – one in the afternoon and one in the evening. The Verona and District Medical Services Committee will present these one hour sessions with information about the future of doctors and nurse practitioners in Verona and outline a fundraising plan. Feb. 20 Fellowship Hall, Trinity United Church 3:00 PM and 7:00 PM.

Be sure to check out the Heritage Festival that our friends to the north are throwing next week. This is Central Frontenac's second year of celebrating its heritage, and it looks like they're set to truly outdo themselves. Check the ads for details, but if you're not busy with Sisters By Heart or the Verona Festival pot luck, you could head up to Soldiers Memorial Hall on Tuesday, Feb. 19 for the opening celebration. After the unveiling of the Sharbot Lake mural and the pot luck supper, one small piece of the evening will be Rose Switzer's riveting account of her mother's experience with the Spanish Influenza in 1918 Sharbot Lake, read by yours truly.

Happy Valentine's Day. Spread some love.