

Column May 1, 2008

Oops. I hope you didn't miss last Monday's bingo. My brain fuzzed and I gave the date as May 28. It isn't. Bingo already was, and it was a good one. The Verona Lions and the Railton Knights of Columbus raised money for the University Hospital Children's Cancer Fund and the Verona District Medical Services Committee. This won't be the last joint bingo from these two organizations. Stay tuned.

They're not done yet either, those Lions. This time, the evening is for the fun-raising more than the fundraising. The Family Games Night this Friday promises to be just a good old fashioned fun time for kids and parents and anyone else who wants to join in. To keep things interesting, there'll be two categories of games: Kids 12 and under can choose from crokinole, spoons, old maid, crazy eights and go fish while their older relatives test their skills at 99, cribbage, spoons, euchre, pass the ace or – crokinole. Doors open at 6:00. Hot dogs, Egg McLions and refreshments available. Games run from 7:00 – 9:00. Admission \$3.00. Children 12 and under free.

You may have seen the sign at Jitterbugs. The dreaded 'business for sale' sign. Calling this popular destination business a "second hand store" hardly does it justice. Deb Baergen's style and flair have given a beautiful twist to old treasures, and many were disheartened to hear that it may be gone. But take heart. Even though Deb will be moving to BC, she has every intention that the store continue. Husband Don says that after 28 years of waiting, they've decided to go back to their roots. Family obligations have lessened. Much of Don's work is in the west, so he's gone from here for long stretches, and now that the time is right, they're moving to Vernon BC in a few months. "There are very few times in life," says Don, "when the arrows all point green in the same direction. And this is one of those times. You ask yourself, 'Are you going to take this opportunity? And if you don't, will you ever get another?'" So that's why the Baergens are taking heart, but what about the rest of us? Because there's already interest out there from prospective buyers, and knowing Deb, she'll want the best for Verona.

You've still got a few days to clean up your roadside. Pick up your Pitch In bags from the Lions at this Saturday's market. And it's the first outside market of the year! Stop by for an Egg McLion and check out the new cookin' digs. You'll be amazed!

Next week brings the annual Lions Pancake breakfast with co-charity the Frontenac Flyers Junior C Hockey Club. Generous donations from Bravo, Mom, IGA and Rivendell mean that virtually all of your \$6 will go either to the Flyers or to Lions charity projects. Get out there and score a pancake for the team. Saturday May 10. 9-12 at the Lions Hall. Three sausage, a drink and all the pancakes you can eat. \$6