

5TH  
VOLUME - OLDCASTLE W.I. TWEEDSMUIR HISTORY

COMMUNITIES - HAMLETS - SETTLEMENTS & CORNERS - CROSSINGS -  
STATIONS OR JUNCTIONS PLUS THE ONLY VILLAGE  
OF SANDWICH SOUTH TOWNSHIP

INDEX:

1. - COZY CORNERS
2. - FAIRPLAY OR BETHEL SETTLEMENT
3. - FAROUGH SETTLEMENT OR GREAVES CORNERS
4. - MAIDSTONE CROSS
5. - OLDCASTLE HAMLET
6. - PAQUETTE CORNERS OR JUNCTION
7. - PELTON STATION OR JUNCTION
8. - SIX CORNERS
9. - ROSELAND VILLAGE OR JACKSON'S CORNERS AS IT WAS BEFORE 1925, ....  
LOCATED IN PARTS OF THE THREE TOWNSHIPS & SANDWICH  
WEST, SANDWICH EAST, AND SANDWICH SOUTH, UNTIL JANUARY  
1ST., 1966, WHEN IT WAS AMALGAMATED INTO THE CITY OF  
WINDSOR: SANDWICH EAST TOWNSHIP BECAME PARTS OF THE  
CITY AND THE TOWNSHIP OF SANDWICH SOUTH.



COZY CORNERS is exactly as its name applies, a crossroads community on old #3 Hwy. and County Road 19 now (Manning Rd.) It wasn't always there with a name but when years following WW2, a restaurant was built and called KOZY RESTAURANT, the community got its name from that. Several owners and restsursteurs have occupied the premises through the years. This area has always been known as part of the Irish settlement embraced by the hamlet of Maidstone and Oldcastle. This is perhaps the first time it has been printed by the press. It has always been referred to as a part of Maidstone.

Story and photo STAR  
by Lee Palser Apr. 17, 1982  
Star Essex Bureau

**COZY CORNERS** — You're right — who has ever heard of a restaurant at a place with the unlikely name of Cozy Corners?

Cozy Corners is at the intersection of old Highway 3 and County Rd. 19 (Manning Road).

It doesn't even properly exist on a map of Essex County, compounding the difficulty for anyone who tries to find it, much less make a living there.

Well, two people are out to change that lack of knowledge, and they're going about it when times couldn't be worse for a new venture.

"Jan (Costea) and I have sunk everything into this," said Ray Gagnon, the cook at Jan's Restaurant. "She said in January that if we don't make it, we'll be lucky to come out of this with the clothes on our back."

"I told her that when we come into the world, we don't even have that, so let's do it."

**'DOING IT'** involves turning around a business that was slowly winding down after some early years of success as a "car hop" drive-in in the 1950s.

For Jan and Ray, it's the chance of a lifetime.

Both have spent years working for someone else, Jan as a waitress in the restaurant, off and on, and Ray first as a meat manager for Loblaw's and then as a maintenance man on oil rigs in Alberta.

He got his hand stuck in the machinery one day, and for the next three years underwent surgery and bone grafts to "give me back my wrist." He still keeps the steel pin in a plastic bag under the counter as a "conversation piece."

Jan and Ray's ambitions are rapidly becoming realized.

Business has picked up steadily since they took over Jan. 3, and the food — well, it speaks for itself.

**RAY HAS** been an amateur cook for years, collecting recipes, showing off his culinary skills for friends and family.

Now the practice is paying off. The homecooked meals are attracting the family



A RESTAURANT operated by Jan Costea and Ray Gagnon at Cozy Corners is growing in popularity

trade they were looking for, along with the usual customers.

"We're getting our regulars, now," he said. "The OPP come down from the detachment on the 401 to get their breakfasts or suppers and to get meals for the prisoners."

Does having a phalanx of black and white cruisers in the parking lot bother them?

Not a bit, maintains Jan. Having the blue uniforms around on a constant basis not only pays the bills, it keeps out the undesirable element.

It's not just the police.

People from nearby Essex come in at noon, and others come from Windsor.

**IT'S THE** diverse menu, among other things, that

brings them back.

Sometimes Jan and Ray don't know until the day before what the special is going to be.

But whatever it is it's invariably good, to hear patrons talk about it.

"Oh, well, some things work out better than others," said Jan. "We're trying to give this a home-cooking atmosphere, to get away from the greasy spoon image most people have of small restaurants."

"It doesn't have to be that way, and we don't want it that way."

The efforts are appreciated; take the man who was eating Ray's homecooked meat pie and called across the room

that the food was "really good."

Ray replied that his mother was responsible — she taught him how to prepare food.

**"YEAH, WELL,** my mother taught me, too," the diner said. "It wasn't like this."

Most of the menus are geared to a low income — less than \$4 for most.

And, there's even a sandwich special, including soup and a choice of dessert, for less than \$3.

The restaurant is open Monday to Saturday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Sunday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

"I learned something a long time ago from my boss at Loblaw's," Ray said. "Don't put it out on the counter for

your customer wouldn't take self.

"Well, we comes out whenever we on, has two another two h

Jan and Ra lated more since opening suggestion of

Some are senior citizen chops "so ter them without

Whatever it more criterio

"When the don't want tl and make a s they're still h

April 14, 1960 — Mrs. Boscari of Cozy Corner's Snack Bar donated the prize won by Joyce Brunke at the last series card party held in St. Mary's Hall, Maidstone.

Nov. 5, 1954 — The many friends of Earl O'Neil, popular proprietor of Trudy's are hoping for better health for him soon. Earl is again in Metropolitan Hospital, Windsor, under observation. Feb. 25, 1955 — The friends will be sorry to learn that around the first of March, Mr. & Mrs. Earl O'Neil will be moving to Windsor. They have sold "Trudy's Snack Bar" on account of ill health of Earl the past year. Mar. 25, 1955 — A. Baskiera has traded his property in Windsor to Earl O'Neil for Trudy's Restaurant at corner No. 3 Hwy. and the townline. In May, 1951, reported that Maidstone had a good softball team that year, sponsored by Earl and Trudy O'Neil of "Trudy's Snackette".



ESSEX FREE PRESS, DEC. 17, 1982

# JAN'S Cozy Corner

## Restaurant

COUNTY ROAD #19 & HWY. #3  
723-4433

### Serving Christmas Dinner

on Sunday, December 19th

Dining Room Reserved Between 2:00 - 4:00

Roast Turkey & Dressing \$4.25

Baked Ham & Scalloped Potatoes & Baked Beans \$4.25

Above Orders Include Soup or Juice and Dessert (Jello, Pudding or Pie)

*We at Jan's wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and also thank all of you for your patronage throughout the year.*

WE WILL BE CLOSED DEC. 25th, 26th & 27th

JAN. 14 Jan's Restaurant 1983

[Cozy Corners] E.F.P.

Hwy. #3 & County Road 19 [Manning Road]

Phone 723-4433

*We are celebrating our First Year Anniversary in Business.*

**Early Bird Breakfast**  
[8 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.]

Sausage, Ham or Bacon

Home Fries

Toast & Jam

Free Coffee & Refills

**\$2.00**

### — Dinners —

1/4 Roast Chicken & Dressing \$4.25

Breaded Pork Chop Dinner \$5.25

Breaded Veal Cutlet Dinner \$5.50

*All above dinners include soup or juice, buttered bread roll, jello, pudding or pie*

FREE COFFEE WITH BREAKFAST & DINNERS *Compliments of Colonial Coffee*

FREE DISH OF ICE CREAM FOR THE CHILDREN ACCOMPANIED BY ADULTS

*Compliments of Twin Pines Dairies*

*Thank You for your Patronage*

## Improve Cozy Corners Markers

E.F.P. NOV. 26/82  
Improved signing and zone marking will be the first step to attempt to reduce the accidents occurring at the intersection of County Roads 19 and 34 (Manning Road and Talbot Road). This work will be undertaken immediately.

The work of minor pavement widening on County Road 34, just east of County Road 19 in front of the United Church will be undertaken in 1983.

The ministry of transportation has suggested the changes.

The existing stop sign on the south approach to Talbot Road will be replaced with a scotch-lite sign, the words Stop Ahead, will be painted on the pavement.

At the northern approach the word Stop, will be painted adjacent to the stop sign which will be of high intensity scotchlite, and the words stop ahead, will be painted beside the warning sign which will also be a 4-foot square scotchlite sign.

The steel delineators at the side of the road may give way to white cedar posts if problems continue along the Manning Road approach going south.

The existing granular shoulder to the curb and gutter will be paved with asphalt on the north side of County Road 34, Talbot Road, on the east side of County Road 19.

Mar. 11, 1955 - Mrs. Albert Baskiera and daughter Sylvia of Windsor, who have bought "Trudy's Snack Bar" and have taken up residence in living quarters. It is with deep regret that Earl and Mrs. O'Neil had to give up the business they expanded in the shop while they have been here. His health would not permit him to continue in the restaurant business. The O'Neils leave a host of friends as they were an ideal

couple to promote good-will and an ideal place for not only the teenagers to meet but also the oldsters. So, the very best of good wishes and better health to the O'Neil's in their new home at 1343 Benjamin Av., Windsor, and assuredly they will be missed at Cozy Corners.

August 12, 1955 - Mr. & Mrs. Harold Voakes (nee Norma Lee Kerr) entertained on Monday evening at their new home, honouring Harold's sister, Violet Voakes, of Wheatley, who will enter nurses training school at Hotel Dieu Hospital and her girl friend Florence, who will enter training at Grace Hospital, with a party and corn roast for 16 young folks.

Nov. 2nd., 1956 - Mr. & Mrs. Harold Voakes entertained recently honouring Bill Kerr, who has left for the Agricultural College at Ridgetown. The many friends of Bill, a grad. of Essex High, wish him well

Apr. 8, 1983 - A FUNERAL HOME COMES TO COZY CORNERS, OPENED IN MARCH. THE CORNERS NOW HAS TWO BUSINESSES. JAN'S RESTAURANT ACROSS THE CORNER.

8 - THE ESSEX FREE PRESS - Friday, April 8, 1983

## the GRAYDON BISNETT FUNERAL HOME

*It's always wise to preplan. Funeral arrangements are no exception. In your home or ours we are available to answer any of your questions.*

— There is No Obligation —

Visiting Hours:

9:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.

**737-1133**

TALBOT & MANNING ROAD  
(Cozy Corners)

## FEBRUARY 22, 1985 E.F.P. GRAYDON BISNETT FUNERAL HOME

*Over 20 Years Experience*

*Dedicated to easing the emotional and financial strains on the families we serve.*

TALBOT & MANNING ROAD  
(Cozy Corners)

737-1133



in his new endeavor. Bill is Normalee's brother, and son of Mr. & Mrs. Ben Kerr of Maidstone.



Aug. 2nd., 1957 - Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Harold Voakes, (Normalie Kerr) on the safe arrival of their 8 lb. son, Leslie Harold, at Grace Hospital, Windsor, July 24th. The double set of grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Ben Kerr and Mr. & Mrs. Voakes of Wheatley are jubilant over their first grandchild. - Sept. 27, 1957: The Voakes and son Leslie entertained Mr. & Mrs. Ben Kerr at dinner on Thursday, the 19th, the occasion of grandpa and grandma's 23rd wedding anniversary.

Aug. 1st., 1958 - Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Harold Voakes (Normalie Kerr) on the safe arrival of their nine pound, six ounce son, Murray Edward, at Grace Hospital, Wednesday, July 23rd. at 2 a.m. A brother for Leslie who celebrated his birthday (first) the day after Murray's arrival. Murray Edward was baptized at the Maidstone United Church, on Sunday with the Rev. N.S. Anderson officiating. The Voakes entertained at a family dinner for the two immediate families later. Dated Dec. 19, 1958, Essex Free Press.



THE ESSEX FREE PRESS  
AUGUST 16, 1985

When a northbound truck smashed into an eastbound station wagon Saturday, three people were taken to hospital with injuries. At the intersection of County Roads 19 and 34 (Cozy Corners), Roger Lantelgne of Ruthven was driving a truck when it collided with a station wagon driven by Louis Rainole of Windsor. Dennis Dupuis was a passenger in the

wagon. Charges were laid against Lantelgne.

A two vehicle crash occurred at the Victoria Avenue corner of #3 highway by-pass Sunday afternoon. Teresio Graziano of Leamington, driver of an '82 Chevette was charged in the accident with Antonio Dimicco, of Leamington who was driving an '83 Buick.

Apr. 29, 1961 - Mr. and Mrs. Albert Baskiera of Cozy Corners, announce the engagement of their daughter Sylvia Mary Ann Masyk to Robert William Daniel of Fraser Ave., Windsor, son of Mrs. Cameron Belton and the late Henry Daniel. The marriage will take place Sat., Oct. 3rd., 1961 at 3 p.m. in S.S. Vladimir and Olga Church, Windsor.

**SORRELL**-Frederick Richard, 48 years, of Windsor, went to be with Jesus, Tuesday, January 17, 1984. Beloved husband of Margaret (Smith). Dear father of Richard, Windsor; David, Sharon and Janice, all at home. Dear grandfather of Selena. Beloved son of Mrs. Gladys Kececi, Windsor. Dear brother of John, Windsor and Lloyd. Mr. Sorrell was Vice President of The Full Gospel Businessmen Fellowship. A member of St. James Anglican Church and a member of Court Ambassador #1117 I.O.F. & owner of The Essex Flower Basket. Resting at the Bisnett Funeral Home, Talbot and County Rd. #19 (COZY CORNERS) after 2 p.m. Thursday, thence to St. James Anglican Church, 4276 Roseland Dr. E. Saturday, January 21, at 9:30 a.m. for funeral services at 11 a.m. Rev. Lewis Dixon officiating. If you so desire donations may be made to the Fred Sorrell Trust Fund in care of St. James Anglican Church.

## Hats by the Hundreds for Sunparlor Scho

October 25, 1985 - Essex Free Press



Collecting caps was a great hobby for owner of Jan's Cozy Corners, Raymond Gagnon until finally with 456 of them, there was no more room for display. Deciding it was time to part with his collection, Mr. Gagnon gave them to the Sunparlor School in Essex where students eagerly tried them on for size. With a handful, Mr. Gagnon fits one on Paul Flannery as School Principal D. Learn watches.