

Been by The Bank lately? No? It's time for a drive-by viewing. The barn is roofed and sided, and the Reception built. Windows are in, doors hinged, and a great team of craftsmen works inside, sanding, wiring, taping, cutting, fitting and painting. They're fueled by a great enthusiasm for the project – and by Tammy's weekly baking. Friday is *Friday Feeding Frenzy* time at The Bank.

This e-newsletter is our **STATEMENT** (get it? Bank? Statement?) of what's been happening with The Bank and what's being hatched in our Plotting and Planning Department. You'll receive exclusive photo sneak peeks and updates on The Arts & Cookery Bank's progress. We're cookin' up some great events for Grand Opening week and you'll be the first to know the date. &

ANNOUNCING...THE MYSTERY PHOTO CAR TOUR WINNERS!

In August 2009, more than 25 people, armed with the CAR Map, a sheet of clues and their cameras, scampered from one corner of The Bank's region to the other, discovering, perhaps for the first time, more than a dozen local, historically significant landmarks. Cairns, churches, cemeteries – this mystery car tour was also a photo contest. Of the gazillion submissions, winning photos from five local photographers were chosen. **CONGRATULATIONS to John St. Pierre, Teresa St. Pierre, John Kendall and Stan and Anita Caveney!**

The winning photos will be unveiled during Grand Opening Week. Oh, the excitement! Until then, we can just show you these two. The photographers don't even know which ones won! Thanks to George Okolisan, a professional photographer from West Lorne, Mike Baker, Curator of Elgin County Museum and Sharon Little, a member of The Bank's Advisory Council, for serving as judges. Reports are they had too much fun. &



NOW AND THEN—BUILDING THE BANK (PART 1)

In each of these newsletters, we're going to take you back. Back to the beginning of this astounding project, showing you photos we've taken along the way. The Arts & Cookery Bank is all about our stories. Stories are about the past, but not just "the ol' days" and "Pioneer Times." Stories happened last week, and "when I was a kid" and before and right after Alexandre Bilodeau's Gold medal win. Stories are about "Remember when..." and so, in this issue, we "**Remember when we started to dig?**" In October more than 60 people, aged 5 months to 95 years, came to the Banks' backyard and stood on what is now the Reception area, shovels in hand, ready to break sod. In just four months, we've gone from...



Keep your eyes on The Bank! It's magically transforming into a very unique regional cultural destination. &

THE HERITAGE PATHWAY PROJECT

Individuals, families and organizations who have bought these 6"x9" stones have many reasons for supporting The Bank in this way. Some are memorial, others celebrate and honour. Here are two stories:

PROFILE: BONNIE ROBERTSON AND FAMILY

Bonnie's family was the first to buy a stone, in memory of her father, Warren Eden. She's looking forward to wandering in the Garden Pathway during the day for a few quiet moments. Several members of the family, including her daughter, Elizabeth (picture here on the right) and her niece, Karen Bowery (left) contributed. "It was an opportunity to support The Bank. We think it's a tremendous idea. We'll do it again."

PROFILE: RICK AND BRENDA MYERS

Active volunteers with The Bank, Rick and Brenda bought their stone as a way to support The Bank. They want to show their children and grandchildren they were there, right from the beginning. "It's going to be the best thing in the area," says Brenda.

WHAT WILL GO ON YOUR STONE? Talk to your family, a group of friends or your organization about it, then call Tammy Oliveira 519-768-9986. She can take your order or send you a brochure.

SPECIAL OFFER FROM BILL DENNING, OF PADFIELD FUNERAL HOMES (519-785-0180). Call him to ask how you can receive a **FREE HERITAGE STONE.** &



TYSK (THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW) ABOUT THE ARTS & COOKERY BANK

The Bank building will be the photographic exhibition area. Rotating and permanent photos and images combined with digital display and touch screens will tell stories – stories of the families, livelihoods, buildings, events and groups that built and make up our communities. This will also be a room that can be rented for special events.

The Barn will house **The Foto Stable** – a digital photo lab for small group photo classes – and **The Cookery**, where we're putting in a stunningly beautiful "kitchen." It's here we'll be cookin' up bright ideas and great food, with interactive cookery sessions, chef-led classes and...well, you'll just have to wait and see what we've got up our sleeves. &

WHAT'S COMING UP?

BREAK THE BANK DRAW

\$5 each or 5/\$20 You can win \$5,000 in our Grand Prize Draw, (April 2.) Call Tammy Oliveira, 768-9986 to purchase tickets.

You get a chance (or more!) at receiving a nice little cheque this spring! The Bank gets some help in making the dream come alive. Great for gifts! And the money ALL stays in the community to help build the community. &

*The entrance to the Reception.
Hand crafted by Wade Davey.*



PASS IT ALONG! Word of mouth (or email) is the best way to serve up excitement. Add a dash of personal enthusiasm and sprinkle with encouragement...let others in on the secret!

STAY IN THE LOOP Don't miss out! If you're receiving this from a friend, email us at info@theartsandcookerybank.com and put "Subscribe" in the subject line so you can get your own copy. We won't give your email to anyone else and we won't bombard you either. You'll get **THE STATEMENT** every few weeks and be kept informed of classes, events and other cool stuff. &