

# Fairport-Perinton Herald-Mail

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Apton's building heavily damaged

## Arson ruled cause of Main Street blaze

By Cindy Loomis

The cause of the fire that destroyed the rear portion of the building housing Apton's Antique Shop at 62 North Main Street in Fairport early Monday morning has been ruled an arson by Michael Fantagrossi, Monroe County fire investigator.

The fire, which was discovered by Ronald Vignari, night sergeant of the Fairport Police Department, while on routine patrol, began outside the building between two stacks of wooden milk crates, according to Joseph J. Picciotti Jr., chief of the Fairport Police Department. There were stacks of the crates against the back of the building and against a utility pole right next to the building.

Vignari discovered the fire when it was moving up the southeast corner of the building and the utility pole. He called the dispatcher and reported the fire and then ran to the door about 20 feet west of where the fire was started and alerted the residents of the building — Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Apton, owners of the building; their two sons, David and Stephen; Stephen's child and the child's mother.

Officer Douglas Morrison of the Fairport Police Department, who was walking the area, spoke to Vincent Apton at 1:55 a.m. Apton, as is his habit, was walking his dog. Between that time and 2:28 a.m. when Vignari turned in the alarm, Apton took out some garbage; he didn't notice the fire then. He

was dressed and reading the newspaper when alerted that his building was burning.

There were 10 fire companies involved in fighting the fire, according to Thomas C. Beck, first assistant chief for the Fairport Fire Department and 125 to 150 firefighters. Beck had the fire under control two hours after the alarm was turned in, but firefighters remained on the scene until 12:01 p.m. Monday knocking down hot spots and cleaning up.

Town of Perinton equipment was used later Monday to knock down dangerous walls and beams and to open a hole to the basement, Beck said.

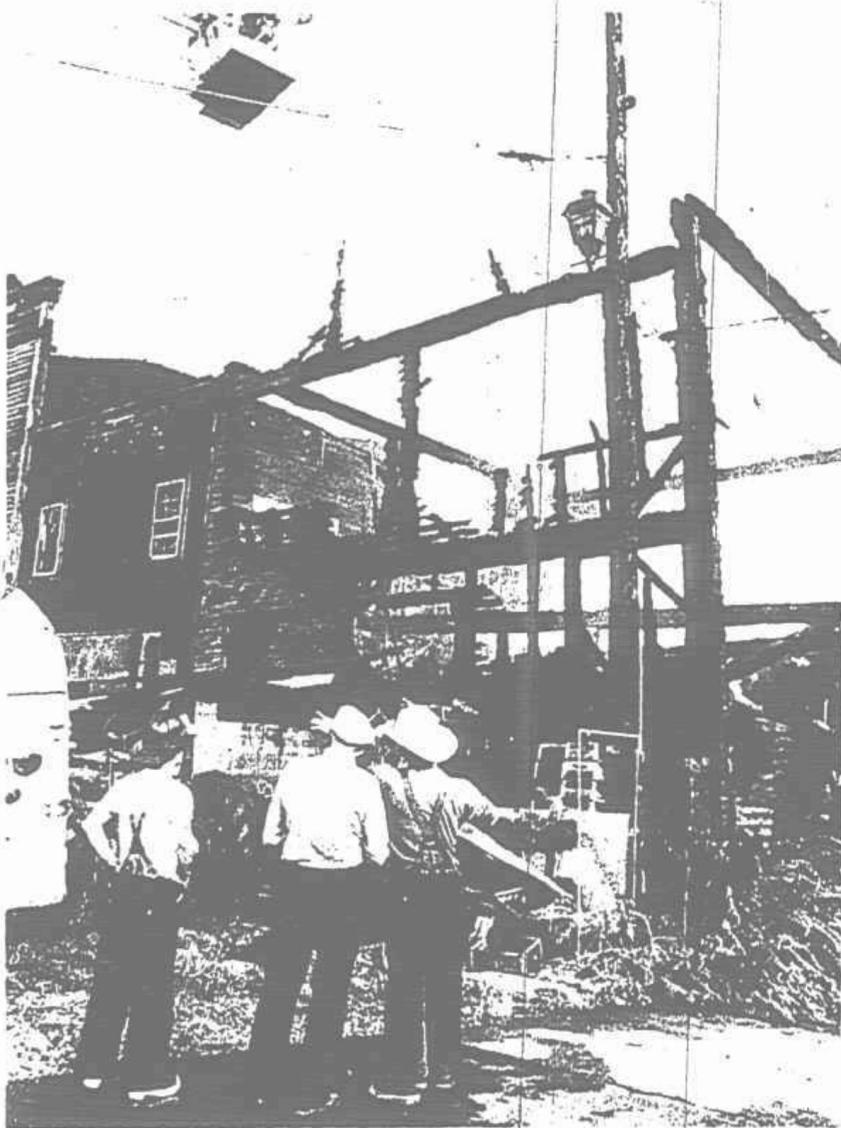
Beck, who was the first firefighter on the scene said flames were inside the building to the third floor when he arrived and all windows had broken and were flaming when the first pieces of equipment arrived.

"The building was a tinder box," Beck said, because of its wooden rear construction.

The fire was intensely hot and scorched nearby trees. Beck said he had a fire truck driving up and down the street wetting down roof tops to prevent embers from igniting other buildings.

"I can't believe the firefighters stopped that fire from burning to the ground," said Picciotti, who arrived at the scene within a half hour of the alarm. "They worked like they were protecting their own homes!"

There was some "mismanaged fire" (Continued on page 5)



**FIREFIGHTERS INSPECT** the fire damage at Apton's Antique Shop that began at 2:30 a.m. Monday. Investigators have ruled that the fire began in the southeast corner of the building near stacks of wooden milk crates piled against the building and the utility pole.

Kelly Burgess

## Community Appreciation Day planned by area service agency

Continuing Development Services, Inc. will have an open house at its facilities at 630 Fairport Industrial Park in Perinton to mark the completion of its fifth year of operation with a Community Appreciation Day to be held from 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, September 10.

CDS, a private non-profit agency, provides services to mentally retarded and developmentally disabled adults throughout the eastern portion of Monroe County. The agency currently operates a sheltered workshop, a day-treatment program and seven community residences.

"Our Community Appreciation Day,"

said W. Lewis Wolf, president of the board of directors and one of the founders of the agency, "is intended to serve both as a report on the progress CDS has made during its first five years of steady growth and as an expression of thanks for the understanding and support we have received from the community."

The event, which will be held at the Fairport Industrial Park on Fairport Road, will include brief tours of the CDS Workshop, the CDS Day Treatment Center and two nearby CDS residences on Baird Road in Perinton and

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## Merchants prepare for new bottle law

By Chris Doyle  
and Cindy Loomis

Area store owners and their customers have already been feeling the impact of the new state returnable container law, although it is not due to take effect until September 12.

Some stores have experienced shortages of some brands because manufacturers have been exchanging their non-returnable containers for ones marked "NY 5 cents deposit." Other store owners say their customers are only now realizing that the "bottle bill" is now the "bottle law" and is costing them 5 cents more for every can, plastic and glass bottle they purchase.

In addition, many soft drink and beer manufacturers have raised their prices to handle the extra cost of collecting the containers and disposing of them.

Perhaps the biggest headache for merchants is coping with storing and sorting returnables.

Store owners have two methods of sorting containers. The "four-sort" method calls for containers to be separated into four groups: cans, plastic bottles, clear glass, and brown and green glass. Merchants may also sort by brand, put-

ting cans and plastic and glass bottles together if they are all produced by the same company.

There will be a special bottle terminal (machine) at the service desk at Wegmans in Perinton. It will be operated by an additional person who will be at the desk most hours when the store is open.

That person will punch information into the terminal machine which will record the type of container returned.

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