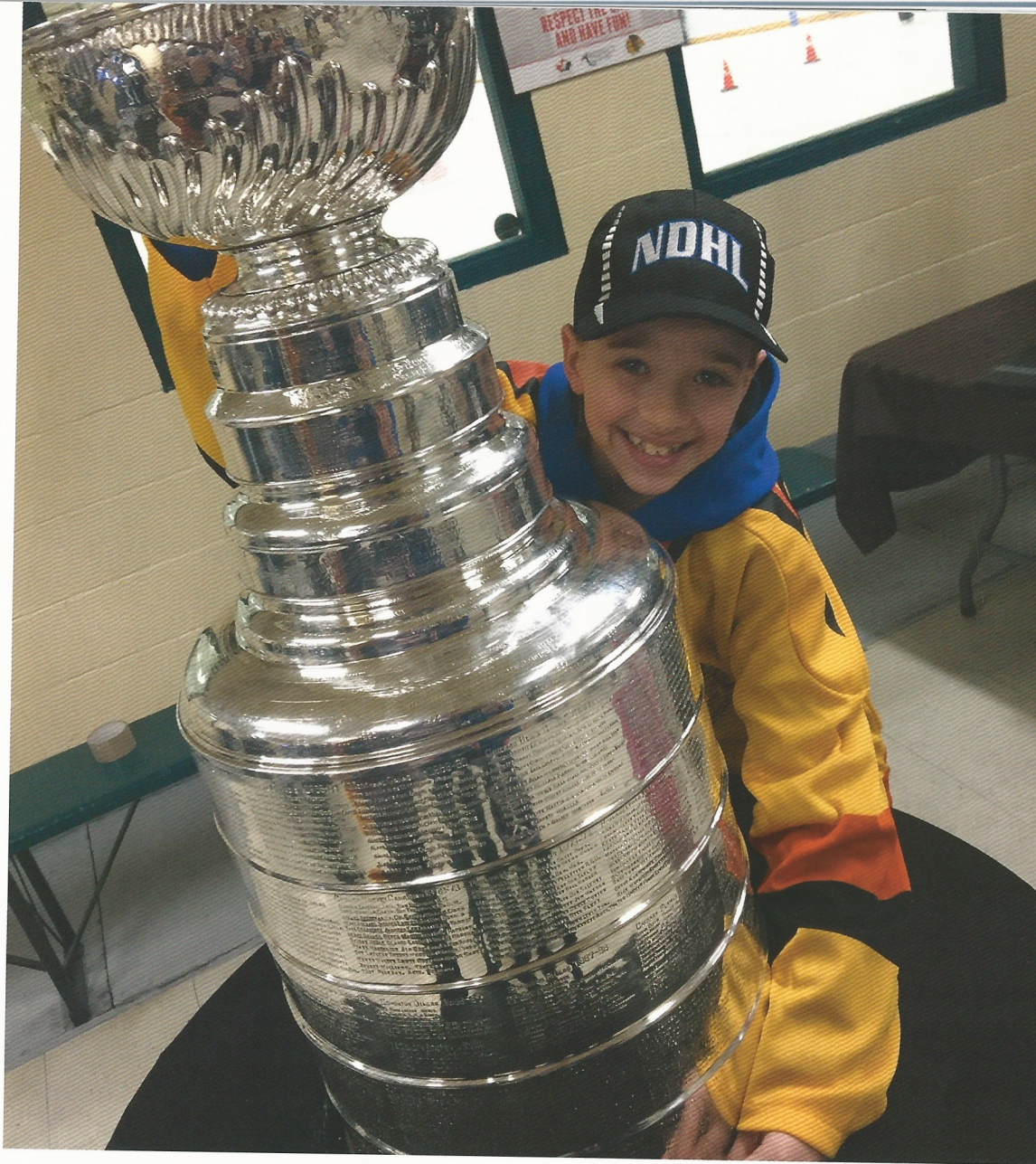


Despite being a small community, Capreol has produced its share of professional hockey players. Josh Torok with the Stanley Cup when it visited Capreol in April.



Capreol celebrates 100th birthday

Capreol Days
kicks off July 28
with homecoming
activities planned
through the week

by HUGH KRUZEL

Who doesn't love a party? One hundred years is surely something worth more than just lighting candles.

"Capreol began as a mile post on the Canadian National Railway line, it soon became a permanent divisional point. Today's Capreol remains a vital part of CN. Many here still make their living working on the trains," says Lynn Mazucca, owner of Lynn's Place. The fashion shop is located on the town's main street.

"We have adopted the slogan "All Aboard" to

convey the idea of getting on board with all that we have to offer."

Mazucca talks of the pride and benefits of Capreol living.

"It has always been a great community where families have enjoyed the privilege of outdoor activities at their doorstep, as well as being close enough to Sudbury to experience the amenities that a city can offer. We have the best of both worlds."

The Capreol 100 Committee started planning in 2016.

"Yours truly was elected as chair or railroaded into the position depending on who you ask," chuckles Cody Cacciotti.

He laments that the new year dawned with two of the project's engineers' seats empty.



► “Unfortunately, we suffered significant loss with the passing of Dave Kilgour and Don Blankley before 2018 arrived.”

The organizers wanted to get as many people as possible involved in the process of planning the celebration. They sought out representation from the majority of the social groups operating within the community such as the museum, churches, Lions Club, Royal Canadian Legion, the Business Association,

Capreol Days Committee, the Community Action Network, the curling club, Northern Credit Union, the Volunteer Firefighters’ Association, and the Capreol Red Hats.

Each group was asked to try to host one event during the year as well as one activity during the main thrust of the celebration scheduled during the homecoming week from July 28 to Aug. 6.

The Northern Ontario Railroad Museum and Heritage Centre became the prime player in the planning.

“The benefit was the ability to use the museum as the vessel for the acquisition of funding. We had to be creative in building some capital to go forward, so we purchased a vintage Ford Mustang Coupe and raffled it off as a fundraiser added to the pool and truly furthered awareness,” says Cacciotti.

The committee received \$43,500 from the federal Building Communities through Arts and Heritage Program.

The year kicked off with a New Year’s Eve dance hosted by the Valley Community Theatre. The Old Timers’ Hockey Tournament was a big success and the Northern Credit Union put on toboggan races at the old ski hill on Family Day.

Capreol hosted a Stanley Cup vis-

Capreol is neighbours with two northern ghost towns. Sellwood was a residential hub for workers at Moose Mountain Mine from 1901 to 1920. The town had a population of 1,500, eight stores, a bowling alley, two hotels and electricity and telephone service. When the mine closed, many of the residents moved to Capreol; Sellwood was eventually abandoned in 1924. Milnet is another ghost town formerly located slightly north of Capreol. Devastating fires in the early 1930s at the town’s central employer, the logging mill, resulted in a dwindling population. (Source: Rainbow Routes)



it April 1, 100 years to the day it was officially incorporated as a town. Despite being a small community, Capreol has produced its share of professional hockey players including Doug “Diesel” Mohns, Fred Boimistruck, Floyd Thompson, Jim Mayer, Joffre Desilets, Jim Farelli and the Horeck brothers, Peter, John and Danny. Capreol is also home to former World Hockey Association referee Ray Thomas.

The museum kicked off its 25th season with the return of the Big Truck Meet Up event May 19. Kids had the op-



On location at the railway museum for Sudbury Living fashion spread featuring clothing from Lynn’s Place.

Lynn’s Place also celebrates milestone

Lynn’s Place Fashion Boutique, the long-standing women’s clothing store in Capreol, opened its doors nearly 35 years ago, on July 29, 1983.

Lynn Mazzuca has lived in Capreol all her life and raised her family there.

Carrying clothing ranging from casual to formal in a full range of sizes, Mazzuca’s customers don’t just come from Capreol or even Greater Sudbury — people from all over Northern Ontario visit her store.

“It’s important to me that a person leaves here looking good, not just to purchase something, because it’s a reflection on me,” she said.

Mazzuca said some of her customers have actually become close friends. She sold them clothing when they were young mothers, and now they’re coming back to purchase mother-of-the-bride dresses.

“I don’t think I started off thinking I would be here for 35 years, but I really like what I’m doing, and I think that makes the difference,” she said. “I’ve been fortunate to meet so many nice people.”

Mazzuca certainly gives back to the community which has hosted her business for so many years. For years, she’s organized Capreol Days, which is celebrating the community’s 100th birthday this year.

She’s also won a few awards for her business acumen, including the Bell Business Excellence Award in the Small Enterprise category in 2012 and the Lifetime Achievement Award from BPW Greater Sudbury in 2014.



Lynn Mazzuca has lived in Capreol all her life and raised her family there.

► opportunity to get up close and personal with a variety of heavy equipment. Tonka handed out free toys and swag.

The Rods N’ Rails Classic Car Show and Canada Day events return to the museum as well as a free Summer Centennial Concert Series every Sunday between June 17 and July 29.

Capreol Days kicks off July 28 with activities planned all through the week. There is a big homecoming dinner planned and a ton of great activities.

The Terror Train 6077 returns in the fall with some big surprises, and the year will cap off with the Annual Tree Lighting and Santa Claus Parade.

“We have adopted the slogan “All Aboard” to convey the idea of getting on board with all that we have to offer.”

“As far as physical changes to the town, new historic street toppers have been installed, as well as banners as you arrive into town. A \$1.8 million Community Improvement Plan along the riverfront is set to be completed by June 30. The museum hopes to unveil its fully restored 1907 Temiskaming and Northern Ontario Railways steam locomotive #219,” beams Cacciotti.

Capreol takes its name from Capreol Township, which was named after Frederick Chase Capreol. A civil engineer from England, Capreol was a businessman and railroad promoter who had a vision to build a rail link from Toronto to Georgian Bay.

Frank Dennie is considered the community’s founder. The owner of the Hanmer Hotel purchased land in the Township of Capreol when he learned the Canadian Northern Railway was building a junction where the rail line coming north from Toronto would meet the line being built from Montreal. Several streets in Capreol are named after the Dennie family: Dennie, James, Lloyd, Clyde, Glenn, Randolph and Hanna.

Historically, Indigenous people roamed throughout this section of the province. A fur trading post stood on the shores of Lake Wanapitei about eight miles from Capreol.

