



**A JOYFUL SONG** Micheline Cox, Micheline Lortie, and Jeanette Arsenault perform French-language songs from their show Cuisine a Micheline for guests gathered at Vader's Maple Syrup last week. The Saturday night show is part of the Maple in the County festival, which will grow again in its eighth year this month. (Adan Bramburger/Gazette staff)

# Sweet tradition continues to grow

## 34 sites for eighth Maple in the County March 27-29

**ADAM BRAMBURGER**  
STAFF WRITER

Ontario Maple Syrup Producers local chapter president Ron Hubbs says he tells people his pursuit is like a disease or a bad habit — once the sugar runs, you can't stop.

For a weekend at the end of March, that sweet tradition has taken on new meaning as thousands flock to Prince Edward County for the annual Maple in the County festival.

In its seventh year last year, the event attracted more than 5,000 visitors according to Taste the County marketing director Grace Nyman. This year, with 34 locations, including six maple producers and two added shows, the habit appears poised to grab a few more.

"Maple in the County has created what seems like a new season here," said Hubbs. "Winter hasn't given up its grip on us yet but spring's starting to take hold. It brings people together to celebrate the

start of tourist season before tourists are here."

This year's festival will open with a performance by folk signer Murray McLauchlan at the Regent Theatre March 27, sponsored by Organic Meadow and the Festival Players of Prince Edward County. Tickets are already on sale at the Regent for an event Nyman stresses is a com-

pletely new show since McLauchlan recently performed in the county.

Throughout the weekend there will be activities and tours available at some of the maple producers' sites. Saturday morning, Fosterholm Farms features its pancake breakfast which served more than 1,500 people last year. They'll have their sugarhouse

open.

Elsewhere, visitors can see some new innovation at the Vader farm — the county's oldest producer, which has been making syrup for 99 years.

**The committee of the  
5th Annual International Women's Day  
wish to say a huge thank you to you all,  
and especially for the financial support of the  
Prince Edward District Women's Institute.**

Prince Edward District Women's Institute  
County of Prince Edward  
Printcraft

Jeaneatte Arsenaault

Tatyana Sylla and Katy Shannon

International Women's Day Choir under the direction of Jane Mcgall  
International Women's Day drumming group under the direction of

Anne McLurg

Vickie Emlaw

Bay Woodyard

Tyendingaga Women Drummers

All of the contributors to the "Wall of Words"

Doris Betteley

Joan Churchill

# STANLEY



