

GRIPPED BY FEAR



A TRAIL OF TERROR

Jesse Imeson, 22, has been the focus of a massive police air and ground search this week. It has stretched from Windsor to Exeter to Grand Bend and beyond. He is considered "extremely dangerous." Police are warning residents in the area to report all suspicious activities and to be cautious.

Lake Huron

Friday: Rivera's car is found abandoned in Grand Bend. Police extend their search for Imeson from Windsor to Lambton County.



Sunday: Police end their intensive search for Imeson about 1 a.m. That afternoon, a 2005 Ford Taurus and two long guns and ammunition are stolen in a break-in at a home on Babylon Line, which runs through South Huron and neighbouring Bluewater.



Monday: Bill and Helene Regier, an elderly farm couple, are found slain in their farmhouse on Bronson Line, between Mount Carmel and Dashwood, as police arrive to investigate a break-in.



Tuesday: OPP say Imeson is the suspect in the slayings of the farm couple. Police urge people to be careful about their personal security, with the suspect in the three slayings still not found, and appeal for the public's help to find a silver 2006 GMC Sierra, with licence plate JK8 334, stolen from the couple's farm.



Thursday, July 19: The body of Carlos Rivera, 25, is found in Imeson's Windsor boarding-house room. A police manhunt begins.

MORE COVERAGE: PAGES A2, 3



Some in Huron County are scared while others seem unaware of the nearby hunt for a killer.

BY JOE BELANGER AND JOHN MINER Sun Media

There are two kinds of people living in and around Grand Bend these days.

There are those you expect to see strolling the main drag, sitting at patios and soaking up the sunshine at one of Lake Huron's most popular vacation spots.

Then there are the others — nervous, anxious, frightened or angry — who eye strangers suspiciously and are checking on family members, buying locks for their homes and dodging the media that descended on the quiet piece of heaven shattered this week when two of their neighbours were killed.

"People are vacationing and they don't know and they don't care," said Lynda Hillman-Rapley, editor of the Lakeshore Advance in Grand Bend.

"Yet, just 10 minutes away in Dashwood, it's like a ghost town. There's not even any children playing in the streets."

It's mostly business as usual in Grand Bend, where suspected killer Jesse Imeson was seen July 18, the day before the body of Windsor bartender Carlos Rivera, 25, was found in Imeson's room in that border city.

And it's a short drive from Grand Bend where on Monday police found the bodies of Bill Regier, 72, and his wife Helene, 73, who were slain in their farmhouse on Bronson Line, between Mount Carmel and Dashwood.

Their pickup truck, a silver 2006 GMC Sierra, with licence plate JK8 334, is still missing.

And Jesse Imeson, a suspect in the slayings, is still at large.

Watching an OPP helicopter fly over her North Middlesex farm, Betty Steeper couldn't keep the worry off her face.

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TIP LINE SET UP

► Police investigating the slayings of a Windsor bartender and a Huron County couple have established a dedicated tip line to receive information about either case: 1-877-584-8477

► Anyone with information about Jesse Norman Imeson, the suspect in the killings, or a stolen silver 2006 GMC Sierra pickup with licence plate JK8 334 is asked to call 911.

Minister resigns over 'slush fund'

BY ANTONELLA ARTUSO Sun Media Queen's Park Bureau

TORONTO — A provincial cabinet minister resigned and Premier Dalton McGuinty publicly apologized yesterday, following a highly critical report by the auditor general into the so-called "Colle-gate slush fund" scandal.

Citizenship and Immigration Minister Mike Colle took a political swan dive yesterday after the auditor reported that he was involved in the handing out of \$32.5 million in capital grants to multicultural

groups with little scrutiny and, in some cases, based on no more than a conversation with him or his political staff.

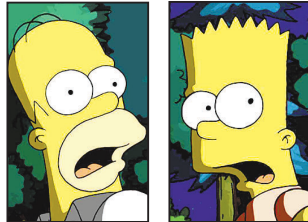
"Mike and I agree the minister must be held accountable and that stepping aside is the right thing to do," McGuinty said.

Auditor General Jim McCarter found no evidence the organizations were given funds because they had political ties, although a few groups did have some links to the Liberal party.


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ENERGY AND LAUGHS
The Simpsons Movie is a cut above the television show, says our movie reviewer, who gives the long-awaited film 3½ stars. Page C1



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An Asian carp

Bad fish raises lake alarm

BY DEBORA VAN BRENK Sun Media

A voracious fish believed to be the first Asian carp to invade the Great Lakes in three years has been caught off Sarnia, to the horror of the commercial fishing crew that captured it in its nets.

If its identity is verified by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Fisheries

and Oceans Canada, the fish could spell doom for the Great Lakes ecosystem, including its commercial and sport fishing industry.

Asian carp have already wreaked havoc everywhere they have been found as they vacuum lakes and riverbeds of nutrients that would otherwise feed the bottom of the food chain.

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