

# Pefferlaw THE POST

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## Port Bolster businessman finds Environment Canada ozone probe

Dave Harding, owner of Harding's Excavation, drove into the yard where his business is located on Durham Rd. 23 one morning and discovered an odd-looking object attached to a parachute lying in the middle of his parking lot.

Upon investigation, Mr. Harding discovered the white-foam covered box was indeed ticking—and upon further careful examination, he discovered a label asking the finder to contact Environment Canada. It turns out the object was a ozonesonde (pronounced ozone

sound) and it had been launched into the upper atmosphere by an Environment Canada research lab in Egbert, Ontario not more than three hours before Mr. Harding found it. According to Mr. Tom McElroy, a senior research scientist with Environment Canada, the probe is probably one of a hundred that Environment Canada sends up every year to measure the ozone in the upper and lower atmosphere, an activity that is linked to their pollution studies. The ozonesonde, equipped with a parachute and a balloon reaches approximately 30 miles above the earth's surface before the balloon break and the parachute guides it slowly back to earth. "It is like a miniature chemistry laboratory," Mr. McElroy said. "A small pump in the container samples the air which then bubbles through a chamber and causes a reaction to make an electrical current flow. The current is then measured to tell us how much ozone is in the air."

Environment Canada has been measuring pressure, temperature and humidity for

more than 100 years when it was done using a kite. Today, with more and more demand for chemical forecasts in addition to weather forecasts, Environment Canada has just recently begun conducting

ozone measurements of the lower atmosphere.

"Our low level monitoring is very recent and only began within the last year," Mr. McElroy said. "We are going into the lower atmosphere for forecasts on

smog and smog alerts," he said.

Although the ozonesonde that Mr. Harding found, fell safely back to earth after its launch, other probes have been known to get into a little more trouble during their travels. According to Mr. McElroy,



Albert Henderson (l) and Dave Harding (r) examine the Environment Canada probe.



Dave Harding (above) holds up the Environment Canada ozone probe and the parachute and balloon structures attached to it.

one that was recently launched near Saskatoon in Saskatchewan, landed more than 500 miles away in Minneapolis, MN. Its flight was apparently picked up by a U.S. radar station and given the recent focus on national security in the states, it caused a bit of a furor. "We heard about that one from our Department of Foreign Affairs," Mr. McElroy said.

## New generator at Fire Hall part of town's emergency plan

A new, 40 kilowatt generator has been installed at the Pefferlaw Fire Hall as part of the Town of Georgina's community emergency response plan and during an emergency, will equip the fire hall to become an emergency evacuation centre. Bryan Burbidge, the town's Deputy Fire Chief and the Community Emergency Management Co-ordinator, said the idea for the generator is a direct result of the 2003 August black-out and is not only large enough to power the fire hall in an emergency, it will also provide electricity to the neighbouring Pefferlaw Youth Centre so it can also be used as an evacuation centre.

"During the black out two years ago, we lost power for a lot of vital equipment,"

Mr. Burbidge said, not the least of which were their pagers which alert and direct them to emergency locations.

Now, in a community emergency situation, Pefferlaw area firefighters, their families and residents will be able to find refuge in both the fire hall and youth centre in addition to the Pefferlaw Lions Hall, the Egypt Hall, the Port Bolster Hall and the Udora Community Centre.

"The town also has three portable generators that can be used in an emergency situation," Mr. Burbidge said.

A complete description of the town's emergency plan can be found on the Town of Georgina's website at

[www.town.georgina.on.ca](http://www.town.georgina.on.ca)

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## Pain at the pumps

I really can't believe what I am seeing...\$1.02 a litre for gasoline! For those of us who remember buying gas by the gallon, that's got to be something like...\$4 or \$4.50 a gallon--and for the average car, that means a \$1 for every 10 kilometers we travel. Wow! Where did that come from?!

According to information dated August 8 on the Ministry of Energy's website, the Canadian average retail gasoline price increased for the third straight week by 3.5 cents to 99.3 cents, a record high. Prices rose by 9.1 cents in Montreal to a record high of \$1.08.4, 6.8 cents in Vancouver to a record high of \$1.05.4 and 3.6 cents in Saint John to a record high of \$1.04.0. So, if misery likes company, we've got the party of the century happening here.

Like you, I've heard all of the reasons why we are paying so much for gasoline—everything from the supply and demand equation to taxes to production costs—to consumers charging the gas companies with collusion.

The bottom line is, gasoline is a non-renewable resource and as such, we should be trying to find other alternatives to conserve what we have instead of selling more of what we don't have. The Ontario Ministry of Energy says that gasoline sales in the second quarter of 2005 were up 2.2 per cent despite rising gas prices, and, product revenues of the four major oil companies grew by 22 per cent.

There are a couple of alternative gasoline products on the market. According to the Ministry of Energy, ethanol, or gasohol, is a high octane, water-free alcohol produced from the fermentation of sugar or converted starch. Ethanol is made primarily from grains or other renewable agricultural and agroforestry feedstocks. In addition, ethanol is currently used as a blending ingredient in some regular and supreme gasolines for vehicles in concentrations of up to 10 per cent—a point at which no engine

modifications are required. Brazil operates a significant portion of its vehicles on pure ethanol and some car manufacturers are now producing cars for North America that burn blends that contain up to 85 percent ethanol. The benefits of ethanol include octane enhancement, a cleaner environment, new markets for Canadian grains and a secure, Canadian renewable energy supply.

It turns out, Ontario currently offers an incentive for ethanol blended gasoline by exempting the ethanol portion of the blended gasoline from the 14.7 cents per litre tax levied on all gasoline, and, the Government of Canada offers a 10 cent per litre exemption on the ethanol portion. Apparently there are 1,000 gas stations in Canada that sell ethanol blended gasoline but for some reason, if I have been pumping this product into my car, I haven't been made aware of it or any associated tax break. So, what's the hold up? It's cleaner, it's better, it's cheaper and it's here. I don't understand why are we still paying top buck for a dirty, non-renewable resource, when new technology, based on a renewable resource, is readily available for less money.

**Karen Wolfe, Editor.**

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## ICE mobile phone emergency program

A memo sent out as an email broadcast from Bryan Burbidge, the town's Deputy Fire Chief, encourages everyone carrying a cell phone to program "In Case of Emergency" or "ICE" contact information into the telephone directory of their cell phone. According to Mr. Burbidge, the rationale for programming contact information into a cell phone, is to help emergency response workers locate "next of kin" more quickly and easily. "The idea was thought up by a

paramedic responding to the London disaster in the U.K.," Mr. Burbidge said in his memo and the East Anglican Ambulance Service there has launched a national "In case of Emergency (ICE) campaign as a result. "The idea is that you store the word "ICE" in your cell phone address book and with it enter the name of the person you would want to be contacted during an emergency," he said.

## Pefferlaw Lions still considering skateboard park

Since the spring of 2005, the Pefferlaw Lions Club has been considering the idea of erecting a skateboard park in Pefferlaw and a preliminary investigation of the idea reveals that costs could run upwards of \$100,000. And that, Lions President, Nick Laviolette says, is on the low end. "I believe the skateboard park in Keswick cost over \$200,000," Mr. Laviolette said and given that the Pefferlaw facility would not end up costing that much, it would mean a consider-

able financial commitment. "We do have some money to put toward it but, we would have to do some major fund raising before we went ahead," Mr. Laviolette said. According to Mr. Laviolette, the subject will be raised again at an upcoming Pefferlaw Lions Club meeting in September where members will look at options and alternatives for fund raising activities. "We are still considering it and it will be on our agenda," he said.

## Pefferlaw residents do well at Fair

A number of Pefferlaw-area residents who exhibited at the Sutton Fair this year came home with ribbons. And, while this is not an exhaustive list, it does name some of the people who were kind enough to let me know how they did. First, Ina Green from Ina's Hair Salon won first prize for her Window Display entry. She competed against 14 other contestants in Georgina and came away with the \$50 first prize. Winning window displays is something she is accustomed to as this is her third prize in Georgina window display competitions. Next, I heard that little Madison Silva, daughter of Lindsay Kortko and Jessie

Silva won first prize in the baby girl contest, age 7 to 12 months. And, in the same category for baby boys was winner Connor Dunn, son of Kevin and Kristie Dunn (nee Kortko). Proud grandparents of both winners are Elaine and Dave Kortko who live on Waterfront Dr. in Pefferlaw. Still with the fair, Debbie Godfrey won first prize for her scrap booking entry; Nancy Henderson entered eight categories and came away with seven ribbons; Patti Weir's five entries produced a number of ribbons; and Susan Palmer entered 14 categories and received seven firsts in the baking categories. Good Job!

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# Georgina Island News

## Minister of Public Health to visit Georgina Island

Carolyn Bennett, the federal Minister of State (Public Health) will visit Georgina Island on September 12, 2005 to discuss specific health care issues facing first nations peoples.

Dr. Bennett will be met by Pat Bigcanoe, the band councillor in charge of the Health portfolio, prior to attending a meeting with the Georgina Island band council.

Kate Wilson, the Liberal party candidate for the area, set the meeting up in order to give the residents of Georgina Island an opportunity to determine their

health care priorities and present them to the Minister.



*Dr. Bennett*

“I think it is a good opportunity for the minister to come over and hear their story and take the message back to Ottawa,” Ms. Wilson said. “The minister has worked in health care as a physician for many years and knows health care inside and out.”

From Georgina Island, the Minister will travel to the Glenway Golf Club in Newmarket where

she will participate in a round table discussion with community health care leaders.

## Georgina Island to host next Native Fellowship gathering

The next Native Fellowship Gathering in the 2005 schedule will be hosted by the Georgina Island native United Church on August 29, 2005.

Each year, native members from various reserves as far away as Cape Croker near Wiarton, attend a number of church fel-

lowship gatherings hosted by different reserves during the spring and the fall. The annual event involves people of all faiths coming together for prayers, hymn sings and a pot luck lunch where there is plenty of time for visiting and information sharing.

## Setting the stage for the Eric Charles Memorial Baseball Tournament

Island residents and cottagers are getting ready to square off at the Annual Eric Charles Memorial Baseball Tournament that will be held on September 3, 2005 at the Island Community Centre.

The round robin event will pit eight teams—four cottager teams and four year-round resident teams—against each other starting at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday.

Georgette Brandridge, the daughter of the late Eric Charles is helping coordinate the event and is expecting an excellent turnout.

“After the baseball tournament we will be hosting a Bar-B-Q at 5:00 o’clock and then a dance at 8:00 p.m. at the community centre,” she said.

“The band BB Devine will play a selection of old rock and eighties tunes throughout the night.”

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## Farm project results in cleaner water for cattle

A federally-funded project designed to reroute the water supply for 200 head of cattle to protect the environment and produce a sustainable clean water supply was made possible through the support and cooperation of three different government agencies.

Don and Brenda Rae, the owners and operators of a 172-acre farm on Morning Glory Road in Pefferlaw have been breeding and raising Brendon Charolais beef cattle most of their lives. In fact, Don's parents operated the farm before he took over.

Approximately three years ago, Don and Brenda heard about a new federally-funded environmental project called the Agricultural Environmental Stewardship Initiative (AESI) that would help them provide a cleaner water supply to their beef cattle.

A spring-fed pond, located at the back of the Rae farm and fronting on Old Homestead Road, was the only water source for the Rae cattle. The cattle would walk through a creek and wander into the pond for a drink, contaminating both the pond and the creek as they went.

According to Brenda Rae, this created a problem—both for the environment and the cattle.

"We always wanted to provide a cleaner source of water for the cattle," Mrs. Rae said, so when they heard about the (AESI) program, they applied for some funding to help them create a system that would lead the cattle to water without going through the creek or the pond. "The project allowed us to put a culvert over the creek and install a windmill by the pond," Mrs. Rae said. "The windmill aerates the pond and is used to pump the water out of the pond and into water troughs."

Now when the cattle file across the field for a drink, they use the bridge to get to the water troughs that are filled with much cleaner water.

"It has turned out to be good for them, good for us and good for the environment," Mrs. Rae said.

The AESI was announced in 2000 by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and provided \$2.475 million to the Ontario agriculture and agri-food sector to support the agriculture and agri-food industry through education and awareness, technology transfer and the adoption of innovative best management practices.

## Tennyson Tidbits

*This column rips a page out of history during a time when Mrs. Tennyson wrote a weekly column for the old Lake Simcoe Advocate in the 1960s. It was a "society" column that featured the news and views of local area residents. We resurrect this column in her honor as a regular feature in this publication and dedicate it to her memory.*

**Scott Sime**, 19 is competing in the National Rugby championships that are being held in Burnaby, B.C. beginning Wednesday, August 17. Scott is a player on the Ontario team in the under-20-year-old category. Good luck Scott.

Happy Birthday to **Gord Causton** of Wilfred who is celebrating his 77th birthday on August 31. Have a great day Gord!

Another birthday for **Cliff Warner** of Regent St. who turned 60 on August 21. And, his wife **Bev**, will celebrate her 55th birthday on August 26. Happy Birthday you two.

OOOps! I forgot to mention **Brenda Camplin's** birthday in the last issue. Brenda, who lives on Church St. turned 48 on August 14. I hope it was a good one.

**Mrs. Beare** of Virginia turns 90 years old on September 13 but friends and neighbours helped her celebrate at a party in her honour on August 14.

It is with sadness and regret that we extend our condolences to **Bill Lee's** family and to **Audrey** on Otter Cove. Bill, who was 90 years old, passed away recently while in hospital with pneumonia.

In my discussion with **Ina Green** of Ina's Hair Salon, she told me two of her pet birds escaped from her shop recently. Scooter is a two year old Conure parrot that is green and yellow and he likes to say "Good Morning". Sunshine is a Pied Love Bird and has yellow and peach coloring. If anyone sees either missing bird around town, please give Ina a call at (705) 437-2796.

**Kal and Shirley Jakonen** are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, **Kallee-an**, to **Gordon Rob- inson**, son of Susan Rummey and John Robinson. The wedding will take place in June 2006 in Amerstburg Ontario.

Congratulations are in order for **Scott Moore**, son of **Gail and Ed Moore** on Brook Crescent. Scott was married on August 6 to Becky Hudgin from Picton, Ontario, also the location of the wedding. Approximately 150 guests attended. Staying with **Ed Moore** for a moment longer, Ed and some of his local buddies travelled to Dundee, Michigan for the Nascar races on August 20, and 21 and I'm sure a good time was had by all.

**Joe Scetto** of Virginia and **Jodie Yardley** were joined in holy matrimony on August 20, 2005. Approximately 220 guests witnessed the outside ceremony on Hwy. 48 in Virginia and the affair was catered by Rosa Sharpe of Pefferlaw.

**Susan Palmer**, the owner of I Make U Bake, told me she is about to bake her 10,000th pie since starting up her bakery business in 1998. Seems this delicious milestone will happen some time in September.

Friends and family of **Chantelle Cul- len** on Hwy. 48 near Port Bolster gathered together on Monday, August 22 to bid her farewell. Chantelle is off to Iqaluit in Nunavut where she plans to live for the next couple of years. Bon Voyage Chantelle.

We send Happy Birthday greetings out to **Doug Doner** of Pefferlaw. Doug celebrated with a big blue balloon at the Belvedere Cookhouse on August 19 when he turned 73.

Happy Birthday to a sweet little girl, **Ryann Richards** who turned three-years-old on August 23. Ryann celebrated her birthday with family and friends at Puck's Farm near Schomberg.

*If you have an item for Tennyson Tidbits, please call Karen at 437-1216.*

## Pefferlaw librarian celebrates 25 years

On July 24, 1980, Mary Scott, then known as Mary Reddings, drove up to the old Pefferlaw Town Hall located beside the Village Store on Pefferlaw Road and quietly began her career as a librarian for the newly established Pefferlaw Library. Today, 25 years later, Ms. Scott is the branch head for the Pefferlaw Library and takes great pride in the evolution and growth of one of the town's greatest achievements. Mary remembers

when residents in Pefferlaw had to travel to Sutton or Keswick to sign out a book from a library prior to 1976. Then, as part of a pilot project to determine the demand for library facilities, the town was visited by a bookmobile. "It was 1978 when we finally got our own library and moved into the old Pefferlaw Town Hall," she said and "I began working there two years later." The first library had approximately 11,000 books and a reference section that included encyclopaedias and periodicals. The catalogue system was manual and the cost of returning a late book was ten cents a day for adults and five cents a day for seniors and children with no limit. Today, Ms. Scott directs the operations of a 30,000-book resource centre from her

library office on Pete's Lane. Built in 1988, the new library is a 2,500 sq. ft. brick building that provides state-of-the-art library facilities to the community. Armed with computers, printers, a DVD library, a

CD library, a children's program and an automated catalogue system, the Pefferlaw library lends out more than 24,000 books a year. Late charges, which can be paid on-line, have doubled and

No longer just a depot for books and periodicals, Pefferlaw's modern library offers literacy programs for children and adults, book discussion groups, internet training seminars, coin-operated photocopiers, reference help, room rentals, garage sale permits and garbage tags. At one time, Ms. Scott said, the Pefferlaw library was the most used library per capita in Ontario. According to Ms. Scott, the Pefferlaw library is considered both pleasant and well-stocked by visitors from Toronto. "We have lots of people coming in from the city who tell us we have a great selection of books and that they love the look and homey feeling of our library," Certainly the credit for the selection goes to Ms. Scott, since she decides what to put on the shelves and she relies on her experience and knowledge of her clientele to make the right choices. "More than ever before, libraries are the cultural heart of a community," Ms. Scott said. "Our motto is, Free Information—Bring Your Own Container."



*Mary Scott (right) still enjoys her role at the Pefferlaw library after 25 years of serving the literary needs of residents in Pefferlaw like Cathy Sime (left).*

recently, the library's holdings became part of a new on-line computer system, iBistro.

"Our entire collection can be searched on-line when using iBistro," Ms. Scott said. iBistro is an on-line catalogue which runs as a web page and is accessible from any internet-capable computer. As well, Ms. Scott praises the e-library, an on-line computer resource that is an excellent research tool for children and students.

In addition to providing search capabilities, iBistro allows users to place holds, renew materials or check their personal account status from home, work, school or anywhere else in the world. The iBistro website can be accessed through [www.georgina-library.com](http://www.georgina-library.com)



*Mary Scott began her library career at the old Pefferlaw Hall on Pefferlaw Road in 1980.*



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## Port Bolster Drive-In owners prepare to expand the “big-screen” outdoor experience

After many years of decline, the drive-in theatre is expected to go through a new phase of growth as more and more people discover and rediscover the romance and nostalgia attributed to the outdoor “big screen” movie experience. And, sitting on the precipice of this trend are Chul-hak Huh, his wife Sonya, his son Domingo and his daughter Rosa Huh, owners and operators of the Port Bolster Drive-In. The Huhs have owned the Drive-In for more than 17 years, but have only operated it since 2000 when a lease to previous tenants expired.

The Huhs seem to enjoy running a drive-in theatre and are considering a number of ideas for day-time operations in the future.

“We are a family business and everyone in the family is a jack-of-all-trades,” said Domingo Huh. “My father operates the box office, cuts the grass and does the mechanical maintenance. Rosa operates the projector and does the signage and my mother helps out at

the snack bar, does the cooking, the gardens and has done a lot of the painting,” he said. Domingo helps Rosa out in the projector room, cooks a little and manages the website.

According to Domingo and Rosa, the family is exploring a number of options that would permit them to expand the use of their land during daylight hours. In the hopper is an assortment of ideas that include carnival rides, artisan exhibits, open-air BBQ contests and perhaps even a wine tasting event. “We are even looking at expanding the snack bar menu to include Korean cuisine,” Rosa said.

The Drive-In opens every year on the long weekend in May and shuts down on the third weekend in September. During July and August, they show first-run movies six days a week.

This old Port Bolster icon has survived a number of owners and changes since it first opened in 1951 under the direction and ownership of

Cyril Scott. At that time, first-run movies like the Greatest Show on Earth would have been shown using a 16 mm carbon arc projector and movie patrons had to hang a speaker on the window of their

cars. Today, drive-in patrons simply tune their car radios to 104.9 FM and the projector technology has been updated and refurbished.

Ron Scott of Port Bolster and Cyril



*Rosa (right) and Domingo (left) Huh pose before the original but refurbished and upgraded projector at the drive-in.*



*Throughout the best part of six decades, the Port Bolster Drive-In has been an icon for romance and nostalgia and may undergo further changes to enhance the outdoor family entertainment experience. For a list of up-coming features visit [www.cinedrive.ca](http://www.cinedrive.ca)*

Scott’s son, remembers when his family ran the Drive-In from 1951 to 1965 when it was sold to Dave and Paul Babcock. “Jim Haines was the first projectionist and had to rewind the film by hand and splice it together manually,” Ron said. “My sister Verna ran the ticket booth and I remember picking up stones left from the construction and picking up the garbage that people threw out of their cars.” Later, Charlie Churnside of Pefferlaw and his son, Robert, were both projectionists at the theatre.

Domingo said that since his family has taken over the management of the Drive-In, it has turned into a family entertainment centre where people can bring their children and enjoy a night out together. “Coming in your own vehicle and having your own private space while you watch a movie, is all part of the drive-in experience,” he said, and the ideas he and his family have for it, will only enhance this experience. So, stay tuned for the next feature.

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## Coming Events

**Georgina 2005 Senior Games** runs from September 12 to September 23, 2005. The event is a competition of recreational activities for Georgina residents age 55 and over. Registration ends August 29, 2005. For more information contact 705-437-2210 ext. 375.

**The Pefferlaw Youth Centre** is hosting a Bar-B-Q and registration evening on September 8, 2005 between the hours of 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Pefferlaw area youths are encouraged to sign up for a number of Jerico after school youth programs and Town of Georgina programs. For more information contact 437-2100.

**Alice Hawke, of WithIN-dependence** in Pefferlaw, is hosting a one- and two-day event at Eaglewood Resort on September 24 and 25 entitled "Your Essential Self". The program includes

a fashion show, angel readings, chair massages, healing workshops and a number of interactive sessions designed to promote balance, stress reduction, inner self-examination and empowerment. Only advance tickets for \$20 each are available and \$5 from each ticket sale will be used to support three local charities. For further information and a complete line-up of invited speakers, please contact Alice Hawke at (705) 437-1577.

**1st Udora Scouting & Cedar Brooks District Guiding** invite you to register for Scouting (boys & girls ages 5-25) and Guiding (girls ages 5-25) on Thursday September 8th from 7-9 p.m. at the Udora Community Centre. For further information/questions, please call Lawrence Woodley (Scouting) at 705-437-3903 and Helen Jones (Guiding) at 705-228-8102.

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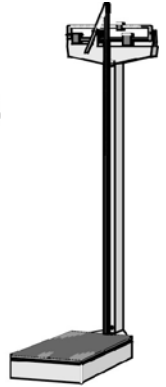
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