

Pefferlaw THE POST

September 10, 2005
Volume 1, Issue 1

Serving Pefferlaw, Virginia, Port Bolster, Udora and Georgina Island

Eaglewood Folk Festival stages another great event in Pefferlaw

The 16th Annual Eaglewood Folk Festival packed them in last month as hundreds of people from all over Ontario, Canada and U.S. came to soak up the fun, the music and the relaxing atmosphere that emanates from this secluded and wooded resort.

The festival not only featured a number of local artists, but also the talents of singers, songwriters, instrumentalists and storytellers from across Canada.

Visitors were not only able to taste the offerings of local fare prepared by the Pefferlaw Lions Club, Mike Calen of Johnson Marina Restaurant and Helen Viau from the Cottage Country Restaurant, but they were able to browse through the diverse samples exhibited by local crafters.

Lillian Wauthier from Toronto, Ontario has attended the festival three years in a row and continues to attend because "it provides a small close-knit community environment."

Carol Teal and David Joyce from Newmarket, Ontario, opened the musical line-



Carol Teal, one half of the Carol Teal and David Joyce duo from Newmarket, opened the Eaglewood Festival on the Friday night and entertained audiences with original ballads and blues numbers.

up of the festival on Friday night, August 23. Their performance was their debut at

the festival although the team had attended in the past. "This is a great festival," said Ms. Teal. "It has a wonderful community feel to it and we get to see a lot of our musician friends." She explained that after the formal program ends in the evening, visitors and artists alike start up camp fires complete with sing-alongs and pot luck suppers. "We get to jam with other artists and play with musicians we haven't played with before," she said.

As a family-oriented event, the venue offered children an opportunity to experience a safe, rural setting while they took in the various events planned for the children's play area. Their parents and other adults welcomed the opportunity to sit back, relax, socialize and listen to a variety of music genres and talents.

Without pausing to bask in the glow of this year's success, the board is already planning the

17th Annual edition of the festival scheduled for August 25, 26, 27, 2006.

Morning Glory students to participate in pilot writing program

Approximately 1,000 Pefferlaw area students are back in local public, private and high school institutions of learning this week and the buses transporting them safely to these schools are back on the roads. As a result, motorists are being cautioned to use extra care.

According to Morning Glory Public School principal, Steve Young, enrolment there is around 590 and two new teachers have joined the faculty at the school. Many teachers have been making preparations for the return of school long before

the first day.

"We've got a couple spirit days lined up and the rosters for our house league sports teams are ready for sign-up," he said. One new project he is excited about delivering is a wireless writing project that mirrors a pilot project conducted at a school in British Columbia last year. Six Morning Glory students will be given a lap-top computer to use during classroom hours with the hope that it helps improve the quality and quantity of the writing they produce.

"We were chosen for this pilot because our demographics matched the demographics of the school that participated in B.C.," Mr. Young said, "and the results showed that the quality and quantity of writing improved between 15 and 20 per cent, particularly among the boys."

Mr. Young said traditionally boys don't like to hand-write but they love to use technology and computers.

"With this project, we are incorporating a modern tool to see if it has the desired effect," he said.

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Reader expresses views on state of Pefferlaw river

This issue I am printing a Letter to the Editor I received from Bernard L. Eastman on 117 Pinecrest Rd. in Pefferlaw.

Dear Ms. Wolfe

Again this year the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) has arbitrarily drained the Pefferlaw River in the summer.

In 1995 the LSRCA presented a report to our elected municipal representatives, recommending the Dam be removed.

Considering the catastrophic effects on the existing eco system, the vested riparian and recreational rights of the owners on the river and the destruction of assessment value, the Council's rejection of the report was predictable.

Notwithstanding this policy position of the LSRCA, it was allowed to remain as tenant and presumed caretaker of the Dam. The manner in which the LSRCA has damaged the rights of property owners on the river since then, in hindsight tells me that the LSRCA has been in a conflict of interests.

There have been various LSRCA excuses over the years since 1995.

This year, it was claimed by the LSRCA that it gave notice on August 10th (!) that the river would be drained to allow inspection of the Dam, something that was supposed to have occurred last year and again this spring. The LSRCA "Notice" said the river would be taken down "between August 23rd and September 2. But on August 19th, the river was already one foot below normal levels. These inconsistencies raise credibility issues.

Ms. G. Wood the CAO of the LSRCA claimed that its bureaucrats decided that the middle of August was their "ideal" time to drain the river. She admitted that the taxpayers were

not consulted as to what was "ideal" considering their legal rights and interests.

Apparently, no environmental impact studies have been conducted by any Ontario Ministries.

The Town of Georgina owns the Dam homesite. Mayor Rossi is our municipal representative on the LSRCA. He is supposed to look after our rights. He owes all ratepayers and electorate an explanation. We need to have our collective voices heard. Tel 705-437-1839, or vialex@sympatico.ca

Sincerely,
Bernard L. Eastman

Pefferlaw
THE POST
Serving Pefferlaw, Virginia, Port Bolster, Udora and Georgina Island

Publisher/Editor

Karen Wolfe
(705) 437-1216
karen.wolfe@sympatico.ca

Advertising Sales

Karen Wolfe
(705) 437-1216
karen.wolfe@sympatico.ca

Circulation Enquiries

17 Otter Cove
Pefferlaw, Ontario
L0E 1N0
(705) 437-1216

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Hospice Georgina sponsors Golf Tournament

Hospice Georgina, an organization that provides support to families facing a fatal prognosis of a loved one, sponsored a golf tournament on August 24, 2005. With more than 130 golfers in-

Lynda Ritchie, the golf chair for the organization, said the group raised as much as \$7,000.00. "We are doing this to raise awareness in the community about Hospice Georgina and what we



(L to R) Golfers Laurence Ritchie, Peter Nixon, Ted Petkoff and Eugene Levand participate in Hospice golf tournament. Golfer Ted Petkoff turns 202 this year.

offer to families with end-of-life issues," she said.

In addition to nursing support and caregiver relief, the volunteer members of Hospice Georgina provide help, hope and hugs

to clients in all of Georgina, Ms. Ritchie said.

The winning team on the back nine with -6 was: Bob Cree; John Madill; Jim Hurst; and Andy Limb. The winners on the front nine with -2 were: Jim Morrow; Pat Morrow, Teri Ross and Blake Ross.

Pefferlaw Seniors Arts and Crafts members celebrate 30 years

A group of Pefferlaw and area crafters has been meeting for 30 years every Wednesday afternoon from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to knit, crochet, quilt or

sometimes even turn artificial roses into potpourri containers. Ann Guy is the president of the group and with approximately 40 members in the club, she describes the tone of their Wednesday afternoon meetings as fun and an opportunity to make articles for their upcoming annual bazaar. "Everyone works on whatever they

want," she said, "but, sometimes we invite people to come in and give us demonstrations or someone finds an idea and they bring it in so we can copy it."

The annual bazaar is their Christmas Show and Bake Sale scheduled for November 26, 2005. Already the group has made numerous articles including knitted and crocheted baby outfits, dish cloths and crafted knick-knacks.

Janet House visiting from Cape Breton for 2 weeks joins the fun and works on a crocheted doily.



Ninety-year-old Doris Beare from Virginia is seen knitting up a storm as she socializes with friends and fellow crafters.

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Georgina Island craft shop

Georgina Island resident Bev Warren has turned a talent and passion she has always had for art into a thriving little business on the reserve. She started out 10 years ago painting images of birds and

Using a mix of paints including acrylic and oils, Ms. Warren applies the paint using a variety of painting techniques including brush work and sponges. "I have always done this sort of work and now I've found a way to make it work," Ms. Warren said.

Visitors to her shop at 196 Bear Road on the island will see large stepping stones lined up sporting original artwork of fish, flowers, birds and other wildlife species. Inside is a Christmas Craft corner with hundreds of wooden Christmas tree ornaments—not only hand painted but hand cut and shaped as well.

"I use just about anything I can find and I cut out my own shapes and figures from lumber I buy," she said.

Ms. Warren's work can also be viewed at the Georgina Art Centre and Gallery in Sutton, Ontario.



Bev Warren poses beside her craft shop and her many hand painted stepping stones on Georgina Island.

wildlife and today, those same images can be found on everything from old windows, saw blades, tree fungus, rocks and dream catchers, to name a few.

Georgina Island Baseball



Georgina Island Chief Brett Mooney hits a ground ball at the 8th Annual Eric Charles Memorial Baseball Tournament on September 3, 2005. Six teams lined up in the round-robin event and Young Guns II defeated the Jean Machine in the finals and walked away with the trophy this year. The first island baseball tournament was sponsored by Eric Charles who was Chief from 1989 to 1993. Mr. Charles was known for his passion for horses and was the owner of several pacers which he entered in races throughout the province. Mr. Charles died at the age of 47 of cancer.



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| | 8-Ball | Club 55 Keswick | 9 am |
| Sept 14 | Golf | Pines of Georgina | 8:30am |
| Sept 15 | Snooker | Sutton Legion | 9 am |
| | Lawn Bowling | Georgina Lawn Bowling | 10am |
| Sept 16 | Fl. Shuffleboard | Sutton Arena | 9:30am |
| | 9-Ball | Club 55 Keswick | 9 am |
| Sept 19 | Badminton | Georgina Gym | 9 am |
| | Contract Bridge | Sutton Seniors | 1 pm |
| Sept 20 | Fl. Shuffleboard | Sutton Arena | 9 am |
| | Carpet Bowling | Club 55 Keswick | 9 am |
| Sept 21 | Horseshoes | Sutton Legion | 10am |
| | Cribbage | Sutton Seniors | 1 pm |
| Sept 22 | Walking | Georgina Gym | 9 am |
| | Darts | Sutton Legion | 12pm |
| | Bid Euchre | Club 55 Keswick | 1 pm |

Registration is closed. Admission is FREE to watch!

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Scott Sime helps Ontario team win rugby nationals

Scott Sime, 19, a talented centre for the under-20 Ontario Rugby team travelled to B.C. last month and helped his provincial team take home the 2005 Rugby Canada National Championship trophy. This is Scott's second national rugby championship and for a young man from Pefferlaw who has played the game since he was 15 in both Canada and Europe, it is not likely to be his last.

Scott's interest in rugby is genetic. His father, Jim, played for the first all Ontario under 21 team that went overseas to Scotland in 1973. And now, the protégé is set to surpass the father's legacy.



Scott Sime wears the first place medal he won at the Rugby Canada National Championships in B.C. last month.

When playing for the under-16 and under-17 Ontario team, Scott went on tour to England and Scotland and ended up staying in England for four months to play more rugby while he attended school there. In the end, he was chosen to play for the high school team, the club team and the county team there. "It was great, it was interesting and really different," Scott said. "It was a great experience and really good rugby." As one of the least-funded sports in Canada, all of Scott's play has been personally financed through his part-time job as a landscaper and some of the fund-raising his mother Linda, has done.

His immediate goal is to win a spot on the Canadian Team and play in the World Cup. And, according to Scott, his chances are "pretty good if I keep working at it." Eventually he would like to go back to England and play there as a professional. "Being a professional would be the ultimate," he said.

For now, he continues to play for the Brock Rugby Club in Blackwater, Ontario while he attends classes in Milton to become a horticulture apprentice.

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.

A very Happy Birthday to **Christina Rowlands** who turns 87 on September 14, 2005. She sent me a lovely card with her best wishes tucked inside and I just hope my penmanship is as beautiful when I am 87.

Congratulations to **Cassandra Williams**, the lovely daughter of **Owen and Rita Williams** on Durham Rd. 23 in Pefferlaw, for her outstanding performance at the Sutton Fair this year. Cassandra won the Georgina Idol contest.

Doug James tells me his mother, **Doris James**, turned 92 this summer and is still going strong. Doris and her husband Ivan, built and ran a restaurant in town in 1946. They later converted it into a variety store and sold it to Mr. Kibble. The building, which is still being operated as a variety store, is now owned by Sally and Stephen Lee.

Dot James, the matriarch of one of Pefferlaw's oldest families, is turning 92 on October 8. Happy Birthday Dot and best wishes for many more.

Gerry Bahen of Pefferlaw turns 63 on October 3 but the celebrations don't stop there. Gerry's wife celebrates a birthday on October 21, his son on October 6 and his anniversary is on October 13. Well Gerry, I hope the magnetic stripe on your bank card is working.

Proud grandparents, **Warren and Barb Pettifer** tell me their twin granddaughters, **Keerstin and Tarra Pettifer** are turning 14 on October 3. Happy birthday girls.

Mary Copeland, a teacher with more than 30 years teaching experience at Morning Glory Public School will be noticeably absent from class this year. Mary retired in June.

Morning Glory Public School will be hosting a **Meet the Teacher Bar-B-Q** on September 22, 2005. The food is being served at 5:00 p.m. and classrooms will be open so students can introduce their parents to their teachers.

The **Pefferlaw Rate Payers Association** has announced that the date for Rabies Clinic has moved from September 24 to **October 1, 2005**. As usual, the clinic will be held at the Pefferlaw Fire Hall. All residents with pets are encouraged to have their dogs and cats vaccinated at this year's clinic.

There will be a memorial service for **Mike Veale** at the Legion in Beaverton, Ontario on September 17, 2005 at 11:00 a.m. All those wanting to pay their respects to Mr. Veale are invited to attend.

Garry Greavette celebrated his 58th birthday on August 31, 2005. Garry and his wife Debbi moved to their new home in Buckhorn on August 30. Happy Birthday Garry and good luck in your new home.

Vendors are wanted to participate in the **Annual Christmas Craft and Bake Sale** sponsored by the Georgina Association for Community Living. The event will be held at the Kinsmen Community Centre on Saturday, November 5, 2005. The cost for an eight-foot table is \$25.00 and tables will be assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis. Interested exhibitors are asked to call Patti Burgess at (905) 722-8947.

Amanda O'Neill on Regent St. celebrated her 29th birthday on September 4, 2005. CHEERS Amanda!

BEE ware! There have been a number of reported incidents of people getting stung multiple times while stumbling over bees nests hidden in the ground, in old tree stumps and underneath hot tubs. A resident on Regent St. was rushed to hospital after he developed an allergic reaction to numerous bee stings when removing an old tree stump on his property. Three other people were attacked and stung when they tried to help a neighbour move a hot tub.

Estonian compound in Udora evolves to reflect new cultural reality

By Erik Tanner

Special to the Pefferlaw Post

Just a stone's throw west of the quaint hamlet of Udora is a charming little community known as Joekaaru (often pronounced joe-ka-roo in English), which in the language it originates from means "bend in the river." A fun name, for sure, but some people prefer instead to call the place "The Compound." Along this Northern European-flavoured community's border you'll find streets emanating onto Ravenshoe Rd., Weirs Side Rd., and Old Shiloh with wonderfully strange and uncommon sounding names such as Harju, Viru, Manniku and Kalevi. If you ever find yourself hanging around the Udora General Store you might even overhear someone casually say into their cellphone— "Yeah, I'm staying at Naelapea's just north of Vambola, off Kalevi on Lembitu"—you'll know they're from Joekaaru.

All these names have significance for Estonian people. Estonia is a small country that abuts Russia, Latvia and the Baltic Sea. Following the Second World War and the Soviet occupation of their country, newly arrived Estonians were extremely anxious to do anything and everything to preserve their culture and further the cause of freedom for their oppressed friends and relatives back home. An enterprising group of these immigrants discovered Udora in 1953 and cobbled together enough money to purchase a 400 acre farm with the goal of creating a children's summer camp and a cottager's paradise. This was meant to be a private area, where Estonians could gather, speak their language, party hardy and enjoy the wilds of Canada.

The project was a huge success. Estonians came from all over Ontario, Canada and the United States to buy land, build cottages and enroll their children in the camp. About 160 freehold lots were created, each roughly an acre in size. The camp took ownership of 57 acres and about 200 acres of forest, streams

and fields were left for the most part untouched, to be enjoyed and managed jointly by the cottagers and the children's camp. A trim and vigorous bunch, they also built an outdoor track and field stadium, that many (an Estonian) claim was one of the best sport venues in Ontario way back in the 50s and early 60s. The Pefferlaw Brook, which runs through Joekaaru, was dammed and a recreational and competitive swimming area was also developed. The dam is still operational, but the water is now a dark morass brimming with a thick unsavoury silt.



Picturesque dam at the Estonian Campground in Udora built by first Estonian cottagers in 1950s..

In the beginning, two organizations were created, one to care for the children's camp and the other to manage the roads together with the street signage, ditches, fields, forests and streams on behalf of the cottagers. The property owners group was named the Esto-

nian Summer Homes Association. An important mandate of the Association was to keep the area in the hands of Estonians. When a property came up for sale, and if it happened that there were no Estonian buyers, then the Association would make the purchase and wait for the "right" person to come along. Things worked well, for a while. That was when (in the good old days) properties could be traded for a thousand or two dollars. But land values began to escalate in the 1970s to a point where the Association did not have the financial ability to maintain the status

quo. Slowly properties began to change hands to non-Estonians. It was not until sometime in the 1980s that it became noticeable the area was undergoing an important transformation. Exclusive summer cottage country was turning into a place where people were raising a family and living year round. Today about 50 to 60 properties in Joekaaru are permanent year-round residences, of which about half are occupied by non-Estonian. The changes to the demographics of Joekaaru in the last 25 years have been significant. Admittedly, at first there was a certain amount of social friction with the newcomers, but the community seems to have matured and is now in a situation where it is rediscovering its "new" self. A friendly congeniality pervades the place today. You can't walk the gravel streets of Joekaaru today without someone saying hello in either English or Estonian, or have a driver pass by without giving a friendly wave. Every year there are one of two community work days, and the current participation levels reflect a strong local spirit that had been waning for decades. The Association collects an annual membership fee of \$75 (\$100 starting in January). While it still conducts all its official business in Estonian, the Association recognizes changes are in order and is now, very slowly, preparing a new updated property owners constitution to better reflect current cultural realities.

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In those days, the workers would camp along the transmission line route as it travelled north from Toronto. When the line reached Pefferlaw and the work day was over, Moe and his fellow workers made a habit of going to the Belvedere Hotel for dinner. There, he met a young waitress named Edna Godfrey, and the rest, as they say, is history.

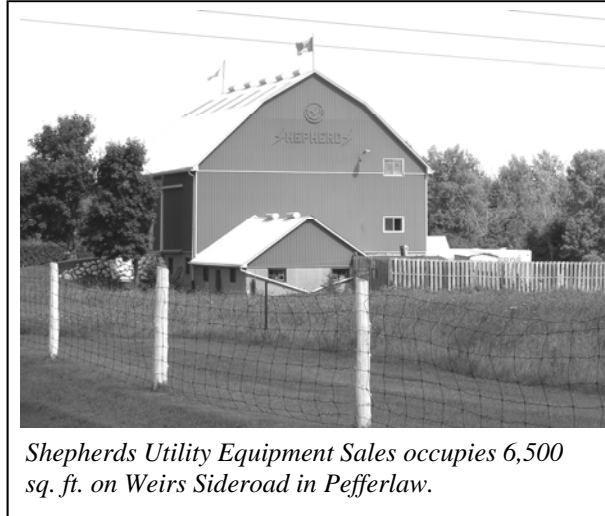
Today, that 20 acre parcel is now the home of Shepherds Utility Equipment Sales (1989) Ltd., and is owned by his son and daughter-in-law, Marvin and Nancy Shepherd. Moe established the business in 1982 after he left Ontario Hydro where both he and his son worked. And, Marvin remembers how the idea for the business evolved.

"When we were both working for Hydro, we would find discarded equipment that the larger utilities like Toronto had thrown away because it was old and outdated and we knew it would be gold for some of the smaller utilities in the north," Marvin said.

Using their knowledge and expertise of electrical apparatus, the pair reconditioned the equipment and began selling it to the smaller electrical utility companies and according to Marvin, used and recon-

ditioned sales are still a mainstay of his business.

"The unique part of my business is used equipment sales," he said. "I buy surplus material from utility suppliers and I recondition it and sell it to smaller utilities in Northern Ontario. But, whatever we have used, we also offer new," he said. The complete product line of Shepherds Utility Equipment Sales includes transformers, safety equipment, tools, hard-



Shepherds Utility Equipment Sales occupies 6,500 sq. ft. on Weirs Sideroad in Pefferlaw.

ware, clothing, ropes, slings and just about everything an electric, telephone, T.V. cable, water and sewer utility might need, not to mention the electrical contractors.

"We supply everything you see on a telephone pole," Marvin said. "We are a one-stop-shop where a contractor can come in for all the materials he needs to build a complete pole line."

As an example, the contractor who was responsible for extending the hydro line on Georgina Island sourced his materials

from Shepherds. "He came in and got everything he needed from start to finish including safety equipment, climbing apparatus, gloves, poles and wire. All he had to do was the labour," Marvin said. The company has over 1,000 full-time customers across the province and employs nine people to help support its activities. But even the current customer base is a moving target and the company prides itself in being flexible enough to adjust to the new realities ongoing in the electrical industry. "At one time there were 325 hydro utilities in Ontario and now we are down to about 75 because of amalgamation," Marvin said. "In addition, the electrical industry has gone through deregulation and new safety regulations but we've stayed on top of it and dealt with it."

For the Shepherds, conducting a business from Pefferlaw brings with it both benefits and challenges. On the pro side, Pefferlaw is centrally located to their main customers in Toronto, Thunder Bay, Ottawa and Windsor but at the same time, shipping to those centres from Pefferlaw

is expensive.

"Our shipping and freight costs are close to \$300,000 a year," Marvin said. "So we are looking forward to the 404 for that reason because it will cut our shipping costs in half."

Until then, Marvin and Nancy are content to service their customers from their 6,500 sq. ft. historic gambrel roofed barn on Weir's Sideroad and commute the two miles everyday from their home on Riverbank Drive in Pefferlaw where they are raising their sons Jason 21, and Kirk 18.



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Teresa Millar

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Coming Events

Members of the Pefferlaw Lions Club will participate in the Terry Fox Run in Keswick on September 18, 2005 in memory of former Lion, Moe Shepherd.

Georgina 2005 Senior Games run from September 12 to September 23, 2005. The event is a competition of recreational activities for Georgina residents age 55 and over. Registration ended August 29, 2005 however, everyone is welcome to attend the events. For more information contact 705-437-2210 ext. 375.

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.

The Perfect Pie and Christmas Cake Contest & Auction will be held at the Egypt Hall on Sunday, September 25, 2005 at 1:00 p.m. Contestants are invited to bring their entry to the hall in a disposable container between 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. on the morning of the contest. Judging begins at 11:00 a.m. sharp. For more information, contact Alfreeda Howes at (905) 722-9514.

Yoga with Heather Munn is starting up in Udora again this fall. The classes begin September 19 and will run until November 28 at the Udora Community Hall from 6:45 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. For further details and information contact Heather at (905) 985-6886 or email her at heathermunn@sympatico.ca

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Yamaha 90 Big Wheel Dirt Bike, good condition, \$850.00
100 cc Suzuki dirt bike, 4 stroke, new chain and MX tires, runs/needs work. Call (705) 437-3832.

Pellet stove, fireplace insert. Perfect working condition. Call 437-3129.

Good used tires. Various sizes for cars and trucks. \$10 each. Call (705) 437-1468.

Korean Culture Night draws 250 people



More than 250 people showed up on August 27 to enjoy a Korean Culture Night sponsored by the owners of the Port Bolster Convenience Store. The event, which was designed to offer residents a taste of Korea, offered free Korean food, music shows and martial arts demonstrations. Pictured above in traditional Korean dress called a Hanbok are: (Left to Right) Kim Min, Tom Min, Mary-ann Burrows, Samantha McIntyre and Grace Min.



The Min Family,
owners of
The New Port Bolster
Convenience Store
wishes to thank the community
for making the
Korean Culture and
God Loves You Night
an outstanding success.

We hope you enjoyed the food,
entertainment and hospitality and we look
forward to serving you in the future.

Sincerely, Tom, Kim, John and Grace Min

23565 B Regional Rd. 23
Port Bolster, Ontario

(705) 437-1010