

**SIMCOE-YORK
PRINTING &
PUBLISHING
LIMITED**

Publisher of the

Innisfil Scope
The Times
King Township Sentinel
P.O. Box 310
Beeton, Ontario
LOG 1A0
705-458-4434
Fax: 905-729-2541
E-mail address
thescope@rogers.com
web site
www.innisfilscope.com

P.A.P. Registration
No. 09319

Publishers:

BRUCE HAIRE
JOHN ARCHIBALD

Editorial

Managing Editor

BRUCE HAIRE

News Editor

Michelle Minnoch

Reporter

Richard Blanchard

Advertising

Director of Sales

JOHN ARCHIBALD

Sales Reps

Diann Gaston

Annette Derraugh

Nancy Stenhouse

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Composing

Manager

JUDI BURKITT

Ad Designers

Penny Gilbertson

Kristen Haire

Joanne Radyk-Carrick

Lisa Rosati

Brian Valdock

Business

Anne Archibald

Jacque Archibald

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Subscription rates:

Within 65 km except

towns with letter carriers –

\$28.00 + G.S.T.

Beyond 65 km and towns

with letter carriers –

\$39.00 + G.S.T.

Single copies 70¢ + G.S.T.

or 75¢ (includes G.S.T.)

Published every

Wednesday

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We acknowledge the financial

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Bitter-sweet day for Ontario

Comment

by Bruce Haire

Premier Dalton McGuinty was expected to announce the province's commitment Tuesday to nuclear power to keep the lights on in Ontario.

With a minimalist commitment to conservation, renewable energy, energy efficient designs, we head down the road of more nuclear.

McGuinty says there is no other choice, but what is disturbing is that we have still not found a solution to nuclear wastes.

Unfortunately, the government has seen nothing but huge cost overruns on its nuclear facilities. They have left a bad taste in all our mouths.

We take uranium, use 5% of its energy, and then have to store the rest for eons in the hope that some day it might be usable.

It's not a pretty picture and shouldn't be minimized by the nuclear energy industry. We have no idea how to close down and clean up a moth-balled nuclear plant.

McGuinty may be right that there is no other choice but it is still nothing to celebrate.

Maybe we should even applaud him for

finally making a decision (unlike the miserable Caledonia situation).

But let's hope there is a real commitment to conservation with some serious money to help us all to increase our energy effort reductions.

It seems that on conservation we have just begun. We may have installed fluorescent bulbs, added insulation, even installed the setback thermostat but really we have just plucked "the low hanging fruit" as one energy expert puts it.

Meanwhile we seem to be caught between well financed lobby groups that argue that their solution is the cleanest.

Yes, nuclear can reduce greenhouse gases but it also has dangers and the disaster of Chernobyl is still with us.

It seems we have hardly begun to tap the energy of solar, the stored heat in the ground and water and energy alternatives.

The Americans are pushing hard on alternative energy sources leaving us far behind. President Bush has stated his goal of no longer being dependent on Middle East oil.

Canada is the most energy guzzling nation in the world. Can we curb our power use?

Hydro One is giving away 30,000 power use meters in Northern Ontario with an internal household display that shows your active energy consumption. Average consumption reduction is 7 to 10 per cent with some reductions up to 15%. The \$150 price of each monitor seems small compared to the billions and the unknowns of new generating capacity. And it is such a simple idea.

So while we applaud that a decision has been made, we also recognize that it is a bitter-sweet announcement that will leave Ontarians without a real conservation drive.

Insulin pump costs \$6000

Dear editor

My name is Adam Crowder. I am a 15 year old, an Innisfil resident and a Type 1 Diabetic – just like my Dad.

I am insulin dependent and take many shots of two different kinds of insulin every day just to keep my blood sugars in check. Lately it has become apparent that I require an insulin pump to help me survive. They cost about \$6,000.00 and

aren't covered by drug plans, insurance or the Canadian Diabetic Association. I need this pump as soon as possible.

On May 21st my Mom organized and held a fundraiser at the Alcona Lions Hall selling 'Gently Used Clothing'. Maybe you saw the sign as you drove by, that week. Well, it snowed that Sunday morning. Thanks very much to all who came out, despite the bad weather.

I would also like to thank everyone who helped out, donated clothing and time, those who bought something and even a few very nice people who donated some money at the sale. We raised \$265.00.

We will be trying again, with a bazaar type sale, on the morning of Saturday, August 12th at 8:00am. Please mark it on your calendar, and watch for the signs and posters closer to the date, as we still have a

long way to go towards our goal.

There is a Trust Account, set up in my name at the Alcona branch of the Peoples Credit Union. I would like to thank the kind person(s) who deposited \$100.00 on May 23rd.

Your donation is greatly appreciated.

Your truly,

Adam Crowder

Editor's note: See story on page

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Thanking volunteer participation at Annual Wing Ding

To the Editor:

Although, a very wet Saturday there were thousands of people in town enjoying the many garage sales, craft vendors and browsing through the shops. We would like to thank the following volunteers who helped to make this event a success: South Simcoe Police Auxillary Service, Jim & Marlene Langdon, Gord Wauchope and Innisfil Events Corporation, Joe Brett and his band, Darlene and John Cooper, Bill & Maria Gray, Laurie &

Jesse Munroe, Lino & Maria Barbosa, Ruth Draper, Brandee Wickett, Nancy & Tom Hildebrand, Heather McDonald, Dean Little, Cindy Roddick-Smith, Sally & Gerry Robinson, Shawna McLachlan, Harri Makavitra, and the Town of Innisfil works department. The success of any event depends on its volunteers and we appreciate the effort put forth by these people.

Cookstown Chamber of Commerce Executive

Cookstown Royal Bank celebrates 100 years

by Susan Stein

On Wednesday, June 7, the Royal Bank's Cookstown Branch celebrated their 100th anniversary.

Thanks to the staff - it was done in great style, appreciated by the many faithful clients, by former employees and managers, by area managers, who attended the open house, held from 5 - 8 p.m.

The focal point to the Bank's past was provided by a video, made from tapes received through Donna Jebb and from photographs taken by historian Joan McLean.

While nibbling on the delicious goodies, made by Mrs. Bourne (the Bank Manager's mother) and sipping the punch, shared experiences in the life of the bank, of present

positions and aspirations, of retirements were exchanged by the visitors.

It was a time to meet former managers Peter Staniforth, Mrs. Pearl, Sandra Tait, Jane Roach and to join in celebrating the Royal Bank's involvement and contributions to Cookstown's community at large.

Cookstown Branch Manager Brian Bourne welcomed and thanked clients and the community, served by the Royal Bank since 1906 with the number of present day clients at 4200.

Brian Jackson, Mayor of Innisfil, presented the bank with a Certificate of Appreciation for the continuous service over so many years and remarked what a rarity that is.

For her help with

the historic display, Joan McLean was presented with a bouquet of roses. A bouquet of roses was also presented to Brian Bourke's mother for her goodies. Grace Cooper, had an urn with plants delivered to her home in tribute to having been a client since 1930.

Anna Cheaney, Royal Bank Area Manager, spoke on the importance of a bank's clients, whose loyalty makes the bank prosper and of the involvement of the bank in all areas

To bring into focus the bank's role in the community, supporting organizations was made by the presentation of a cheque of \$500.00 to Brian Haas, representing the Cookstown Co-op Playgroup and a cheque of \$1,000.00 to



Mayor Brian Jackson presented a certificate to Royal Bank Manager Brian Bourne at the Anniversary celebration. photo by Susan Stein

Trans Canada Trail's committee Frieda Baldwin for projects, such as making it wheel chair accessible.

Over the past 100 years, there have been momentous changes in the bank. The managers do not live in the upstairs apartment

any more, computerized entries and the updating of books have replaced the hand-written entries, simple investments are replaced with many diverse possibilities, handled by a knowledgeable

financial adviser, as well as providing assistance in loans and mortgages. But one thing has not changed: the sincere, honest, dedicated service given by the staff of Cookstown's Royal Bank. Thank You!