

**SIMCOE-YORK  
PRINTING &  
PUBLISHING  
LIMITED**

**Publisher of the**

Innisfil Scope  
The Times  
King Township Sentinel  
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Beeton, Ontario  
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P.A.P. Registration  
No. 09319

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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 -  
\$41.00 + G.S.T.

Single copies 71¢ + G.S.T.  
or 75¢ (includes G.S.T.)

Published every  
Wednesday

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The Scope 2007

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We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada, through the Publications Assistance Program (PAP) toward our mailing costs.



# Using our talents - food for the soul

## Comment

by Michelle Minnoch

Working for a community newspaper, you attend a lot of events, meetings, photo ops, etc. You are always in the company of people you know, and sometimes you meet people from the community who know who you are, but you have never met.

As we are preparing for the next deadline of our 'footprints' magazine, I am again making the rounds, seeing new faces, conducting interviews, and listening to great stories.

Since the first edition of the magazine, I have come across exceptional people, with fascinating tales to tell.

Speaking with members of our community, I have realized we have a really talented bunch here, and although some talents are not seen by all, I can honestly say, it is there.

Talent can be found in many forms. It is not just the stroke of a brush, the tip of a pen, or a run at the ball. Everyone is talented at something, it is just a matter of finding it and using it to your fullest potential. Sometimes

finding your talent can be the hard part; but it's there.

You just have to search down deep and you will not only find something you may be successful at, but something that feeds feeds your soul. Your soul does not need food to survive, but a positive outlook and a drive to do your best, which in the end results in happiness and satisfaction all around.

Being talented at something does not mean you have to be the best in your field; you may love and be a great hockey player - even a talented one - but that doesn't mean you will be in the NHL draft. But that's okay - remember, as long as your soul is full, it's all good in the end.

We are all given a gift - a talent - and it is up

to us to not only realize what it is, but use it to the best of our ability. It is our responsibility to ourselves. If the talent we have can be a benefit to other people, it is our responsibility again to use it and then share with others (ie: a doctor - as someone that does not have a steady hand, I can appreciate a talented surgeon!).

So, what's your talent? Can you make people laugh and liven up a room with a few good jokes? Are you the best pitcher on your team? Can a canvas come alive when you sit down and paint? Can you crunch numbers for your accounting department? Are you good with children?

We are all talented at something.

That said, we don't have to enter into a profession just because we are good at something. We just have to remember what gift we have within ourselves.

We should give ourselves a present once in a while and use our gifts. Just food for thought.

Okay, food for the soul.

# Thank you for another successful Wing Ding!

The Cookstown & District Chamber of Commerce hosted the annual Wing Ding on June 2nd & 3rd. Though the temperatures were in the 30's the event was well attended and very successful. I would like to thank the following volunteers for assisting in the organization and running of Wing Ding. In no particular order they are: Bill & Maria Gray, Warren Baguley, Maria Barbosa, our community service volunteer

students, Marleen & Jim Langdon, Wref & Bev Nix, Darlene & John Cooper, Ingrid Schienke, Dean Little, Nancy & Tom Hildebrand, Cindy Roddick-Smith, South Simcoe Police Services and Auxiliary, Bob Brown (Town of Innisfil), Doug Brown (Cookstown Curling Club), Cookstown Firefighters (especially Tom, Harry & Doug), Neil Currie (Home Hardware), Innisfil Events Corporation, Heather McDonald,

Holly Robinson (CHAY), Vee Jagjivan (manager of Cookstown Manufacturers Outlet Mall), Cookstown Ag Society and a very special thank you to Barb Baguley who kept us organized. Joe Brett for organizing our entertainment at the beer garden, Gord Wauchope for organizing the beer garden, and Earl Rumm and Mario Giampietri of Geranium Corporation who sponsored the live music, promotion and the beer garden all weekend.

The beer garden and live entertainment Saturday and Sunday were new this year to the Wing Ding and the dance Saturday night was well attended and enjoyed by over 250 people. Thank you to all who participated and we will see you again next year!

Laurie Munroe  
President C&DCC  
Wing Ding Chairman

# Lost motorist thanks locals for help

Dear editor,  
I was wondering if you might be able to print this letter in your paper please. It would mean a lot to me if I could have this message passed along. This is a true story.

My name is Stephanie. I live in Georgetown Ontario (a town about 40 minutes west of Toronto). On Sunday April 28th, I attended a bridal shower in Innisfil.

I left extra early that morning to accommodate the time it would take me to get lost, figure out I had gotten lost, and then retrace my steps and try to correct the problem. With my mapquest directions in hand, I set off for Innisfil. The mapquest directions told me to take highway 89 toward Cookstown/Alliston. And so I did.

About 15 minutes down the road, I realized that none of the streets I needed to find had appeared. I started to panic and pulled into a random Petro Canada at the side of the road. The woman behind the counter, although attempting to be helpful, reached for a phone book when I asked for her help. As I was standing in the Petro, close to having a Jerry MacGuire freak-out in front of the few strangers that might have wandered

in, probably one of the nicest guys I have ever met in my life walked in. I'm not sure if he came in to pay for gas, or what he was doing in there-I was in such a terrible state of frazzledness that I really am not sure how I even managed to coherently communicate at this point. I do know that I turned to him, asked him if he was from around the area and then spewed my horrible story about how I had the shower to go to, mapquest had screwed me over, and I was hopelessly lost in a gas station somewhere with no idea how to get where I needed to be.

I followed him out to the parking lot where his friend was waiting in the car. His friend got out, drew me a map on my invitation and then told me how to get where I needed to go. I think I must have looked like a deer staring into headlights because after he tried to explain it to me again, he decided it would be easier for him to drive there and me to follow!

Now, coming from a town close to Toronto, the first thought that should have popped into my head was "I'm never going make it home". But what I really thought was, "these guys seemed so nice and really, what's the worst that could

happen? I could end up lost...oh wait, I already was". So after being reassured that it really was no trouble and he lived around fourth line anyway, I hopped in my car and followed his green (monte carlo?) in the direction of 7th Line (or so I hoped). I followed this green car, with two very nice guys in it blindly passing roads I had never heard of, when suddenly it occurred to me that I was actually going to make it to the shower, and on time at that. 7th Line approached, the green car pulled over, I pulled up next to them and thanked (Jake? and his friend). I was actually more grateful than I think they realized.

As I pulled off down the street, I saw the green car turn around and head back to where it came from. I got to the shower and told my story about the two nicest guys ever that I had met at the Petro. No one there seemed surprised about my story.

They said that was the kind of people you meet around there.

Well, let me tell you-that is not the kind of people you meet around my area. My family was shocked that I had followed these guys so trustingly. They were surprised that I hadn't ended

up in a ditch somewhere. These guys were so nice that the thought never even crossed my mind.

The thing that has stuck with me, though, is the fact that even though I did say thank you, I really want these guys to know how much their kind gesture meant to me.

Kindness like that is most often taken for granted. But I would really like these guys to know that they are still in my thoughts and I genuinely appreciate the help they gave me on Saturday.

The whole way home as I drove from Innisfil back to Georgetown, I regretted not saying something more or giving them something... anything. If they read this letter, or someone they know reads it and tells them about it, that would at least let them know that their gesture was truly appreciated.

I am still telling people about the guys I met in Innisfil.

So, if my friends from Innisfil read this letter, please know that the girl with the pony-tails from obviously not anywhere around Innisfil is totally grateful for your help and really truly thanks you.

Sincerely,  
Stephanie McLean

## Thanks from Lefroy United Church

Dear editor,  
Many thanks to all the supporters of the Lefroy United Church UCW Quilt Raffle.

The draw was held June 2nd weekend and the proud new owner of a one of a kind quilt is Liz Briscoe of Brooklyn, Ontario. We would like to once again say thank you to all those who purchased tickets.

Your next opportunity to own a quilt will be at the Lefroy United Church Auction on Saturday June 23rd .....check it out at 9am!

Andrea Simpson

## Vacation Bible School registration

St. Paul's Church, located at the corner of mapleview and Yonge Street extend an invitation to pre-register for this summer's vacation Bible School.

Registration will be at the church on Tuesday, June 26th between 4:00 and 7:00 pm.

Vacation Bible School will be held from 9am until noon on August 20th - 24th.

The cost per child is \$10, or \$25 per family. For more information, call (705) 436-6047.