

# Still work to be done on accessibility front

## COOKSTOWN NEWS

by Barb Baguley

Accessibility means different things to different people and that was evident at the Accessibility Day held at the Simcoe County Museum on May 7.

I was a member of the Innisfil Accessibility Advisory Committee when it was first formed and have been followed the progress of this group with great interest.

There have been many improvements and there is still much work to be done. Accessibility is an issue of aging, illness, accidents, injury and birth abnormalities. Those of us who are able go through days with little thought to going up stairs, reading a menu in a restaurant, or asking for directions to a store or in a library. It is persons with disabilities who regularly find simple tasks time consuming and often impossible. When you are out and about and hurrying through your busy days, be observant and offer help where needed, hold a door for an elderly person or a parent with small children or a stroller, offer your arm to

people who look like they need assistance crossing the street. Remember that in just one moment your accessibility to everything could be gone.

Join the Innisfil Public Library at the official groundbreaking ceremony for the new Cookstown branch and community centre at 20 Church Street Saturday May 24 at 11 a.m. All residents are invited to attend this Bring Your Own Shovel (BYOS) celebration event.

Cookstown Wing Ding is celebrating 25 years. Contestants can participate in Cookstown Idol and sing on the CHAY 93.1 FM Concert Stage. Participants 12 and under will sing Saturday June 7 from 1 to 5 p.m. and those aged 13 to 19 will compete Sunday June 8 from 1 to 5 p.m. There will be a \$150 prize for the winning Idol on both days, as well as prizes for all contestants. Duets are allowed for those who don't want to sing alone. E-mail cookstownidol@yahoo.com to register or visit www.cookstown.ca for

details.

There will also be a children's area featuring the Georgian Bay Steam Show. Children can learn to make a skipping rope and there will be pedal tractor races and dunk tank. Proceeds will go to the new library.

The annual Wing Ding Dance, sponsored by Geranium Corporation and OLG Slots at Georgian Downs, will be held June 7 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Cookstown Curling Club, one block east of Highway 27 on the north side of Highway 89.

The dance features Creedence Clearwater Revival tribute band Green River Revival. Admission is \$5 at the door, with proceeds to benefit the Cookstown library.

The Wing Ding committee is looking for some community service volunteers. You can earn up to 14 hours by assisting on June 7 or 8. Please contact Laurie at 458-9212.

The Highway 89 and County Road 27 intersection will be reconstructed starting May 12. The construction is expected to last six to eight weeks. There may be additional congestion and children should be reminded to take

extra care when walking to and from school during construction.

Join the Innisfil Historical Society at Knock School, located at 7756 10th Sideroad at the 9th Line, on May 17 at 2 p.m. for Let's Tell Stories. Participants are invited to share good, bad, funny and interesting stories of their life. This will be a good time to start preparing your own family history, writing it down will ensure the stories last forever. Children will cherish stories of their grandparents who lived without electricity or running water, computers and iPods.

The Cookstown Agricultural Society will celebrate its 150th fair in September. In honour of this event, the society will hold a competition open to all ages for a design of a poster or banner depicting images of the fair over the past 150 years. For more information, contact Bev at 458-1570.

If you need high speed internet service, visit the County of Simcoe website and complete an online survey. Results will be shared with internet providers in hopes they will respond to residents' needs. Learn more and complete the survey at

www.simcoe.ca.

Register for storytime and after school programs at the Cookstown library branch with the following programs:

Family activity and storytime for children of all ages on Wednesdays from 10:15 to 10:45 a.m., a story time program with games, craft and stories for three to five-year-olds on Thursdays from 1:45 to 2:30 p.m., the after school club is for five to eight-year-olds on Thursdays from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. or an aspiring actors club on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., where children will act in plays, create shows and make costumes.

Saturday May 24, the Cookstown library will show The Spiderwick Chronicles at 1 p.m.

Stroud Presbyterian Church invites everyone to attend the 99th anniversary services Sunday May 25 at 10:30 a.m., with guest speaker Rev. Kirk Summers. A special music program will be presented by piper Adrian Stock, tenor Mackenzie Gallinger, trumpeter Paul Crocker, pianist Ken Cheney and organist John Hart.

Maple Leaf Seniors will hold a monthly business

meeting at Cookstown United Church on the second Tuesday of each month, beginning at 1:30 p.m., with a lunch gathering on the fourth Tuesday. New members ages 55 and up are welcome. For further information, call 458-2219.

Be a part of history by sharing your stories about Cookstown at the curling club May 21. Project coordinator is Donna Wice at 436-2578. Interviewers are available to assist with the storytelling process.

St. John's Anglican Church Cookstown will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the cemetery board on June 1 at 11:15 a.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. Canon Judy Rois, incumbent from 1987 to 1991. There will be a dedication of two new stained glass windows in the newly renovated parish hall and the kitchen. Refreshments will be served after the service. Everyone is welcome to attend, but those with loved ones in the cemetery are especially welcomed. For more information, call 458-1801 or 458-1835.

Contact me at abaguley@bconnex.net or 458-9358 with your news for our community.

# Dance team steps on competition in Newmarket

## THORNTON NEWS

by Cathie Miller

The Thornton Area Action Committee will be

holding a garage sale this coming Friday and Saturday, May 16 and 17. The sale will be held on Charlie's vacant lot, just south of

William Street, on the west side of Barrie Street. All proceeds from the sale will benefit the Thornton library and other community

projects. Donations are still being accepted, so call Willy at 458-9290.

The Competitive Dance Team from Positive Step Dance Academy attended the Newmarket Dance Festival over the weekend. They participated in 11 dances from solos to groups and were awarded nine first place trophies and two second place awards. The team also received four overall trophies for having the highest marks in their dance categories. Emma Turtscher won a special award for great acting during her Jazz solo dance. The Modern Group scored the second highest marks of the day with 92 and the Line Group, which featured 22 dancers performing in two dance styles, Jazz and Tap, during the same dance also placed very well with a mark of 91. The Positive Step Dance Team should be very proud of their accomplishments, considering that the team

only danced in 11 of the 120 dances performed that day and came home with so many honours. Team work, lots of practice and a great teacher made the group successful. A special thank you needs to go out to the 'Moms in Action', who helped out with make-up and hair backstage. Well done Miss Kim and the Positive Step Dance Team.

The Essa Historical Society will be celebrating their 29th birthday on Saturday May 24. They meet in the community room at the Thornton library starting at 1:30 p.m. Roll call is the recollection of a favourite birthday memory or party. All are welcome to attend. For more information, call Olive at 458-9971

Ivy Minor Baseball still has room on several of their teams for some hardball players. The Bantam team is for 14 to 15 years old and the Midget team is for 16 to 18 years old. For more

information, call Charlene at 739-9226.

The Simcoe County Active Family Challenge is held during the month of May. All you need to do is participate in six activities as a family during the month of May, have fun, record the what you did together and submit the ballot and wait to see if you won.

The family activities can include walking the dog, playing a game, shooting some hoops or anything that you can do as a family. Some great prizes are up for grabs such as a \$1,000 gift certificate from Source for Sports or an annual family membership to the YMCA. Ballots and information can be picked-up from the library and must be submitted by June 6.

If you have any news, announcements, or coming events, e-mail me at thorntonnews@rogers.com, call 458-0869 or drop it off at 25 Robert Street. Bye for now.

## Students show off their UN knowledge



Debt forgiveness for developing nations, nuclear proliferation, and global warming were under debate by more than 100 secondary school students from throughout the Simcoe

County District School Board, as they participate in the 22nd annual SCDSB United Nations Assembly simulation.

Hosted by Penetanguishene Secondary

School, the assembly took place on Tuesday, at the Education Centre in Midhurst.

Each participating student represented a United Nations country.

	County of Simcoe Transportation and Engineering 1110 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L0L 1X0	Main Line (705) 726 9300 Toll Free 1 866 893 9300 Fax (705) 727 7984 Web: simcoe.ca	
NOTICE			
COUNTY OF SIMCOE BRIDGE No. 053002 RECONSTRUCTION CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT			
INITIAL NOTICE *****			
PUBLIC COMMENT INVITED			
The County of Simcoe hereby notifies all interested individuals and parties that the County is considering improvements to the site of the Bridge No. 053002 located over the Innisfil Creek on Innisfil 5 Sideroad, approximately 0.25 km north of Highway 89, in the Township of Innisfil, County of Simcoe.			
The existing 8.8 metre single span reinforced concrete rigid frame bridge was constructed in 1950 and has been identified as being deficient with respect to physical condition, road geometry, hydraulic capacity and barrier protection.			
This project is initially being conducted as a Schedule B activity in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Engineers Association - Municipal Class Environmental Assessment document (June 2000).			
The public is encouraged to contact the County or its consultants, R. J. Burnside & Associates Limited if you have any questions about this project.			
The County is considering a variety of alternatives for this site. Once alternative solutions are developed, further notices will be published and information made available.			
For further information concerning this project or to inspect a copy of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment document, please contact:			
County of Simcoe Mr. Jim Hunter, P. Eng. 1110 Highway #26 Midhurst, Ontario L0L 1X0 Phone: (705) 726-9300 Fax: (705) 726-3991 Email: Jim.Hunter@simcoe.ca		R. J. Burnside & Associates Mr. Stephen Riley, P. Eng. 3 Ronell Crescent Collingwood, Ontario L9Y 4J6 Phone: (705) 446-0515 Fax: (705) 446-2399 Email: sriley@rjburnside.com	
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