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STUFF
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NO. 26 – WINTER 2010 • PUBLISHED AT VITTORIA, ONTARIO

The Vittoria Booster

The Vittoria Booster Newsletter is published twice a year by The Vittoria & District Foundation for its Members and Supporters.

website: www.vittoria.on.ca

In Memoriam

Marion Florence Taylor (nee Guiler), 85July 10
 Grace May Trafford, 81.....July 10
 Robert (Bob) John Buckle, 81July 10
 Mary Emma Lemery, 84July 19
 Sharon Ruby Hazen (nee Morrison), 60August 1
 Norma Agnes England (nee Evans), 98.....August 8
 Irene Travale, 89August 21
 ✓Philip Charles Ernest Bently, 54.....September 7
 Helen Marr Cruickshank, 98September 11
 Iva May Earls (nee Paton), 85September 12
 Mary Haselmayer, 69September 22
 William West, 59September 23
 John Beischlag, 80September 24
 Chester (Chet) DeCarolis, 89September 30
 David Lloyd Ferris, 87October 3
 ✓Jean Lizzella Newton (nee Cornell), 86.....October 15
 Herbert (Ray) Beagle, 72October 26
 Harry Anson Smith, 66October 29
 Berniece Major, 70October 29
 Keith Turner, 93October 30
 Joseph (Joe) Edward Slaven, 85.....November 5
 ✓James (Jim) Alfred Whitehead, 70November 6
 ✓William L. Ferris, 79November 25
 Patricia Pearl Smith (nee Cope), 75December 6
 Blair Sharpe, 61December 10
 John Kudelka, 95December 11
 Laurence (Bud) Epple, 81December 11
 Earl Wellington (Bill) Hicks, 83.....December 17
 George Benko, 77December 23
 ✓Neil Murray Stewart, 59December 26

Milestone Anniversaries

✓Linda and John Hofgraff.....45 years on July 11
 ✓Frances and Stan Voigt.....60 years on July 16
 ✓Twila and Roger Cruickshank55 years on July 17
 Betty and Bob McKenzie60 years on July 23
 Sandra and Alan Schott40 years on August 11
 ✓Rhonda and Jack Smith.....40 years on August 16
 ✓Helen and George Watt55 years on August 21
 ✓Marie and Irwin Wippel50 years on Sept 4
 Faye and Harold Jarvis60 years on Sept 10
 Edna and Cliff Frost50 years on Sept 17
 ✓Sandra and Herman Kunkel45 years on Sept 19
 Sandra and Nick VanGroningen50 years on October 3
 ✓Jackie and Doug Chadwick50 years on October 10
 ✓Cecilia and Lawrence DePoorter55 years on October 23

Over 60 Club

✓Muriel and Tom Millar.....64 years on August 3
 ✓Violet and Charles Monroe67 years on August 23
 Jean and Alan May.....61 years on February 19

Milestone Birthdays

✓Cliff Whitehead 80 on July 5
 ✓Donna Schram 75 on July 16
 ✓Roger Cruickshank. 75 on July 18
 Erna Tischer 90 on August 13
 ✓JoAnne Smith 75 on November 5
 ✓Frances Smith 80 on November 25
 ✓Joan Stewart 80 on December 8
 Frances Woolley 90 on December 16
 ✓Marion Sherman 80 on December 20
 ✓John Clayton 75 on December 27
 ✓Frances Voigt 80 on December 29

Over 90 Club

Flossie Maylin 92 on July 31
 Mary Hamilton 99 on August 2
 ✓Marion Lockhart 97 on August 4

Please excuse any errors and/or omissions in this booster, thanks for all you help everyone. Tracy Haskett

William Ferris



The late William Ferris (left) and Ed Long, President of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #158

Port Dover's Legion becomes beneficiary of 30-year collection of military hat badges

Adapted from the Port Dover Maple Leaf article by JOAN DOYLE

Editor's Note: William Ferris passed away on November 25, 2009, in his 79th year.

In September 1950, William Ferris walked out of a tobacco field on his family's Vittoria farm and enlisted with the Canadian Army. His intention was to fight in the Korean War, which had broken out in June of that year.

He was a tank gunner, but there wasn't that big of a need for tanks in Korea so he spent the next three years in Germany attached to the British Forces of the Rhine.

After his discharge, the young man returned home and married Marion Dutton. They lived in Simcoe until 1968 when the couple along with their four sons moved to Sauble Beach. There, he operated an automotive service station, got involved in the municipal and regional politics of Bruce County and served as president of Legion Branch #586 for five years.

Always interested in military history and memorabilia, the former tank gunner began to collect the badges worn on the hats and berets of military personnel during the Second World War and the Korean War. The badges, some with very unique designs, show the wearer's nationality and the corps or regiment to which they belonged.

William recalled how the serviceman or woman put a small piece of cardboard in behind to

make a beret stiff enough to carry the weight of the badge.

The collection that began over 30 years ago now includes 144 hat badges. He estimates that he is only missing about three of the Canadian badges issued during the two wars. Some of the corps and regiments no longer exist, he said.

"When I had extra money, I collected them. It was quite a thing to do in the 1950s and 1960s when there were a lot of dealers. Nowadays, there aren't many around.

"It's been a great hobby for me. I've bought them from both dealers and individuals in Victoria, B.C., in Alberta ... all over the place." His badge collection even includes one from the Prince Albert and Battleford Volunteers. It proved to be especially hard to obtain, he noted.

For years, the badges were kept in shoe-

**"I expect there will be a lot of interest in this collection,"
- Ed Long, Legion Presiden**

boxes under his bed. But thanks to son Vern, they are now displayed in a 4 by 7-foot wooden case with glass door. Vern has also prepared a seven-page document that lists, in order, the name of the regiment or corps from which each hat badge comes.

William and Marion Ferris retired in 2002 and moved back to Norfolk County, purchasing a home on Woodhouse Concession 5. Marion passed away in 2007.

At the age of 80, William decided to make some permanent plans for the keeping of his treasures. As a result, the collection is now located at the Hugh Allan Branch #158 of the Royal Canadian Legion.

"I expect there will be a lot of interest in this collection," commented Legion president Ed Long as he stood in the Ferris family room admiring the display. "We really appreciate it," he said to William as the two gentlemen shook hands on it.

The donation of the collection happens at an important moment in the history of the Port Dover Legion. Members celebrated their 80th anniversary on November 7, 2009, and played leadership roles in Remembrance Day ceremonies on November 11.

Rob Blake: An All-time Great

Adapted from the Times-Reformer article
by JACOB ROBINSON

Recently Simcoe native and National Hockey League defenceman Rob Blake joined an elite list that includes Wayne Gretzky, Bobby Orr, Doug Gilmour, Syl Apps and Curtis Joseph.

As part of the 75th anniversary, Rob was voted among the best players the province-wide organization has ever produced. During last year's Boston Pizza Challenge (formerly Golden Gardens tournament) a banner recognizing the achievement was unveiled at Talbot Gardens in Simcoe.

Rob's family, as well as former teammates and coach Bob Kowalsky, were on hand to take part, as were representatives from the Simcoe and District Minor Hockey Association (SDMHA) and the OMHA.

Bob Kowalsky and Rob's father, Bob Blake, said a few words, and then the banner was unhooked from the rafters near centre ice where it will remain forever.

"It certainly brings back a lot of memories and was a little bit emotional," said Bob Blake, who along with his family watched a video tribute put together by SDMHA chronicling his son's career.

"That's a terrific honour, one that you sit back and think about. It would mean a lot to him."

As the captain of the San Jose Sharks, Rob was unable to attend the ceremony. But he did tape a message of thanks which was played on a video screen for the crowd.

Bob Blake spoke to the crowd, telling them a story of when Rob first got started playing. One cold winter afternoon, just after Christmas, the future Stanley Cup champion was a little hesitant to try his new gear out on the family pond with his brothers.

"My wife got him in the house and got him all dressed up," Bob Blake told the crowd.

"She put him in the toboggan and pulled him down there. The boys played hockey all afternoon, and when they were done she pulled him back."

The rest, as they say, is history.

Rob went on to win several OMHA Championships, eventually graduating to junior, NCAA Division 1 and then the NHL.

"It's an unbelievable honour, to be a teammate of his and watch him grow as a player," said Simcoe's Ron Loucks. "Our whole team is a big family and we all followed his career all the way through — as well as Dwayne Roloson. To see Robbie honoured with this kind of an award is unbelievable."

OMHA representative Kevin Boston noted that most of the all-time greats selected were from small towns. Rob is one of the primary examples that the best players don't necessarily come from the big cities.

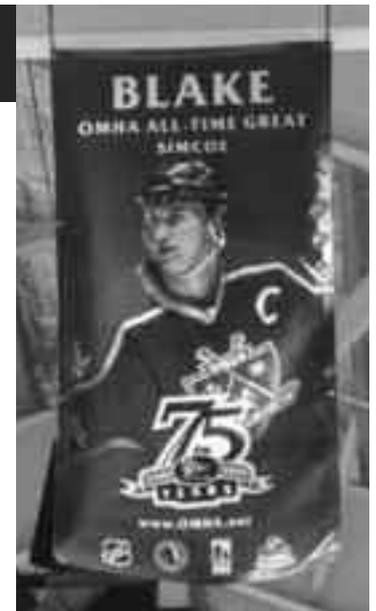
Rob has captained two teams (Los Angeles and San Jose), won a gold medal at the 2002 Olympics, and got his name on the Stanley Cup with Colorado in 2001. Even when he played in Simcoe, Ron said it was easy to see what kind of talent Rob possessed.

"It was pretty obvious that he was going to be a special player and is still one of the top in the game today. He'll probably end up in the Hockey Hall of Fame and it still gives you chills when you watch him on the ice," Ron said.

"Rob's put a lot of hard work in himself, and he's become the player he has because of the effort and goals that he had."

Not only did the banner mean a lot to the Blake family, but those that lined up next to him along the way. The chance for everyone to come together and celebrate symbolized the achievement.

"Rob's always been proud of his hometown, proud of his family and his friends," said Ron. "He's kind of a quiet guy — he would be very proud, but very modest and he would always make sure that we all shared it together as opposed to just him. He knows where his roots are and how he got started."



Simcoe and District Minor Hockey Association and the Ontario Minor Hockey Association unveiled the banner commemorating Rob Blake as one of the OMHA's all-time greats Saturday morning at Talbot Gardens. The banner will remain hanging from the Simcoe rafters till the place is torn down.

(Jacob Robinson, Simcoe Reformer)

Abbey McGuire



Sixteen-year-old Abbey McGuire is now a Junior Counsellor with the War Amps organization. The Simcoe Composite student is mentoring young amputees on how to deal with their amputation.

Young amputee mentors others Teen champions good cause

Adapted from an article in the Simcoe Reformer
By ASHLEY HOUSE

From CHAMP to children's role model, Victoria teen Abbey McGuire has done it all. Born a right-arm amputee, Abbey has attended many CHAMP seminars to learn the latest in artificial limbs or how to deal with living with an amputation. "It's been really helpful," she said.

Recently, Abbey filled the role of people she used to look up to as a child. At the War Amps 2009 Ontario Child Amputee (CHAMP) Seminar, Abbey, as a junior counsellor, mentored young children living with their amputations. "I've always wanted to do it," she said.

"I used to look up to the junior counsellors. So as soon as I was old enough I filled out an application right away."

Abbey is 16 years old and a Grade 11 student at Simcoe Composite School. As a junior counsellor, she can pass on what she has learned by mentoring young children on how to handle their amputation and talk them through things they may encounter.

"More often than not, people with amputations are bullied," Abbey said. "You get staring and questions from people who aren't as informed on the issue. There are always kids who say more than what they should."

But a positive attitude is always helpful. "We try to teach the kids to always have a winner's circle philosophy and keep a positive attitude," she said. "The kids were all really positive just like they should be."

Abbey answered questions and offered advice on body image, learning to drive and employment. Elementary school kids are always full of questions, she said. But as she's moved onto high school, the staring becomes minimal and the questions are less. "Hardly anyone even notices," she said. "It's great."

As a child, Abbey required the use of a prosthetic arm to help her to learn to crawl, sit and stand up on her own. Now, she doesn't need one and continues to live a fulfilling life. Amputations don't have to slow a person down, she said. "We can do anything just as well or even better than people who don't have an amputation."

She thoroughly enjoyed her experience at last weekend's seminar. "It was a really humbling experience to have all these CHAMPS looking up to you." Abbey hopes to continue her involvement with the War Amps organization as a junior counsellor.

Jessie Grummett: Hare Scramble Champ

Jessie Grummett: Hare Scramble Champ

By CLARK HOSKIN

The thrill, the speed, the adrenaline rush – these are just a few of the reasons why Jessie Grummett enjoys dirt bike racing so much, and has earned him the title of champion.

To the uninitiated, dirt bike racing may look like a bunch of kids tearing across cow paths in the countryside. But dig a little deeper and you will discover a community avidly dedicated to a sport that is gaining popularity across North America. From motocross to enduro, dirt track to hare scramble and others, the Canadian Motorcycle Association oversees all the

Jessie Grummett



classes, including the riders' memberships at a variety of skill levels, officiating, and awards.

For Jessie, 16-year-old son of Tracy Haskett and Tom Grummett, racing means competing in six to nine races each summer on courses across Ontario, including Burnt River, Wilberforce, Moorefield, Port Colborne, Barrie,

Vienna and Ohsweken. He rides against dozens of other dirt bikers in a "hare scramble", a race through forests, ravines, rivers and fields. Sometimes, the path narrows to a small space between two tree trunks – barely enough room to fit the handle bars.

"I've raced over waterfalls, logs, rivers, hills and rocks," he says, adding that weather conditions rarely stop the action. Rain and lightning are often thrown into the mix.

Jessie rides a nimble, two-stroke Yamaha YZ125 dirt bike with few alterations, except for an oversized fuel tank to save time – and "bark busters", steel bars to protect his knuckles from being hit by tree branches.

He suits up in a jersey and chest protector, riding pants, boots and gloves, plus helmet, neck brace and knee braces. And don't forget goggles to keep the mud from splattering in your eyes. For hot days, Jessie will strap on a "camel pack" – a bladder full of water connected to a hose so he can sip during the race to stay hydrated.

"The best part is the adrenaline rush while you're racing at the beginning," Jessie explains about a typical two-hour race. "Then, by the middle of the race, I'm in the zone, doing perfect laps with no mistakes, being smooth. That's when I can gain ground, and I have another hour to get ahead."

Jessie admits that battles amongst his fellow racers add to the thrill, but the challenges keep him focused. As he has moved up the skill levels, his matches start later on a typical race day. That means his class uses the course after it has been beat up by younger

classes. The hills are chewed up, making it difficult to gain traction, and the mud holes get bigger, deeper and more treacherous.

Each course has its own personality, which Jessie has come to prepare for and respect. Ohsweken is muddy, St. Thomas has river hazards. Wilberforce is littered with rocks. Vienna is fast and technical.

"You're flying at 40 kilometres an hour through trees and tight spaces just wide enough to get through."

Jessie's goal is to become a top professional, attract sponsors and race in the World Enduro Championships. He rattles off names like Brian Wojnarowski and Chris Van Hove, professionals he looks up to. For now, he hopes to move up the ranks within Ontario, someday becoming the Number One Pro. In 2008, Jessie was named Ontario Youth Champion. In 2009, he won the National Hare Scramble Championship in the Novice A Division, and was recognized by the Norfolk County Sports Hall of Recognition at the 2009 Norfolk County Fair & Horse Show.

He has already begun training in the off season, heading to the gym, with cardio being a top priority. Endurance and conditioning are also important, as is strength, given that he's in control of a 200-pound bike that inevitably needs to be lifted back on the track.

What advice does he have for a young person going into the sport?

"Go into it to have fun at first, learn and enjoy. Don't be pressured. See how you like it." But he quickly adds that if you want to take the sport seriously, you will need to travel a lot.

In September 2009, in one of his final races of the year, Jessie traveled to Upstate New York, where he was one of a few Canadians who competed in the Unadilla race, part of the Grand National Cross Country group. Almost 500 racers turned out that day, and Jessie placed tenth in the Schoolboy 12-17 class of 51 racers. He made four laps around a 16-kilometre track with an elapsed time of 1 hour 57 minutes 3 seconds. Through a lazy cloud of two-stroke exhaust, a thousand spectators cheered the racers on.

Jessie smiles a humble, mischievous smile, as he recalls the thrill. It is obvious he can't wait to get back on the track.



Monroe Landon Woodlot



Alex Landon (left) looks on as Larry Lamb addresses guests at the Monroe Landon Woods dedication event (Photo by NCC)

Monroe Landon Woodlot protected by government and Nature Conservancy

By JOAN DOYLE

At-risk winged species, such as the Acadian Flycatcher, Cerulean Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, as well as the Southern Flying Squirrel, will have an undisturbed habitat in which to thrive, now that the Monroe Landon Woodlot is under the environmentally-protective umbrella of the Nature Conservancy of Canada. (NCC)

More than 100 people, including many descendants of Monroe Landon, attended a dedication ceremony Sunday afternoon for the 53 hectare (132 acre) property that fronts onto Charlotteville Concession Road 7.

The two-part dedication began at the nearby Wagon Wheel Produce and Corn Maze where Diane Finley, MP for Haldimand-Norfolk, announced on behalf of Canada's Environment Minister Jim Prentice the Nature Conservancy of Canada's successful acquisition of the woodlot. It is part of the Carolinian Life Zone and contains stands of Tuliptrees, American Chestnut, Butternut and the Flowering Dogwood, that is Norfolk County's floral emblem, as well as dunes and seasonal wetlands.

The Carolinian Life Zone is one of the most biologically diverse regions in Canada and one of

two areas containing the highest densities of species at risk in the country.

Norfolk, according to a handout from the NCC, supports 60 species considered at-risk nationally.

Minister Finley said the property had been secured in part with funding in the amount of \$467,000 from Environment Canada's Natural Areas Conservation Program. The Monroe Landon property is among the 336 properties that have been acquired through this conservation program since 2007.

Other named contributors to the acquisition were the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Woodlot called "an ecological gem" by Monroe Landon's son Alex and his wife, Doris.

"The land has remained largely untouched and unspoiled over the years," Minister Finley said. "It is wonderful legacy."

Wendy Cridland, NCC's Southwestern Ontario program manager, told the group the property is more than just a woodlot. "It reflects a family's view of the world."

That view of conservation and protectionism began with Monroe Landon, who was born in the late 1880s. He bought the property in 1937, apparently to protect its numerous Tulip trees. He is described as an outdoorsman, a farmer, a conservationist, a renowned authority on wildflowers.

Monroe Landon played a role in the Trillium becoming Ontario's floral emblem. He was instrumental in the formation of the Ontario Naturalists. He organized the 1941 Guelph Conference that five years later resulted in the Conservation Act. He supplied plants to the Royal Botanical Gardens and the Arboretum in Guelph. He was also author of a booklet on the Vascular Plants of Norfolk County.

From the time I could keep up to his long strides," Alex Landon said, "I went out with him. I learned at an early age about salamanders and snow fleas."

In 1976, the elder Landon sold the property to his two sons - Alex and Bob. Then in 1980, he passed away in his 94th year. Alex and his wife, Doris, became the sole owners of the property.

Grandson Jody Bodnar told the group that

Monroe Landon was a self-taught man. He did get a diploma in 1905 from the Ontario College of Agriculture, and Jody recalled hearing that his grandfather had earned half a cent per hour at the college.

After refreshments, the second part of the dedication took place on the site of the woodlot. There, Doris Landon cut the cord that secured a

cloth over a new wooden sign. It acknowledges the site as a southern Norfolk sand plain natural area and states that pedestrian access is permitted.

The Nature Conservancy of Canada is this country's leading land conservation organization.

Turkey Point



Phragmites australis

TURKEY POINT- An experimental weed killer may be the answer to restoring the beach in Turkey Point.

Adapted from an article in the Simcoe Reformer
By ASHLEY HOUSE

The Ministry of Natural Resources is researching the use and effectiveness of an herbicide on a non-native grass that has taken over the beach along Ordnance Avenue.

Four plots along the three-kilometre beach will be subjected to spraying trials next month, said Mike Postma, superintendent of Turkey Point Provincial Park. The park manages the Turkey Point beach.

Phragmites australis is a reed grass that threatens to choke out native species and alter habitat. "We know it's an invasive species and we are committed to doing something," Mike explained. "It's been cropping up in other areas of the

province."

The tall reeds have been a thorn in Ordnance residents' side for years since the MNR decided to rebuild Class A wetlands along Turkey Point, which are critical habitat for wildlife. But the non-native grass dominates the wetlands, blocking beautiful views of the waterfront.

Tom Millar, president of the Turkey Point Property Owners Association, said the spray trials are a step in the right direction.

"It's better than nothing," Tom said. "We have to realize that they (MNR) are just trying to do what is safe for the environment and the community. We have to have faith in them."

The spray trials have been successful in other areas across Ontario, including private lands and Rondeau Provincial Park.

"If we get the results we want, we'll spray it all," Mike continued.

The herbicide is a variation of the weed killer Round Up with the active ingredient glyphosate. Fall is a good time of year to apply the spray, Mike said.

"It's past the season of wetland plants," he added. "We'll be careful not to do any damage to native species."

Using a special contact medium, the spray is systemic, moving through the stems and into the deep roots of the plant, killing it.

Residents were keyed up to have their say about the management of the wetlands when the provincial park's management plan was up for review this year. Because Ontario Parks has just added around 200 parks to the provincial park system, all of which need a management plan, Turkey Point's review has been postponed.

But Mike said the public will still have a chance to provide input. He expects the process to begin at the end of 2010 or early 2011.

The Cider Keg



Norfolk grower also busy with lots of pumpkins

Adapted from an article in the Hamilton Spectator
By KATRINA SIMMONS / Photo by Ted Brellisford

The Cider Keg ships their sparkling cider across Canada. With 50 hectares of apple orchards in Norfolk County, the Haskett family mixes other fruit such as peaches, cranberries, cherries and strawberries with their apples to produce different flavours, and will even personalize their labels for customers who want to serve a festive, non-alcoholic alternative at their wedding.

So what are they doing with all the pumpkins?

"The big secret is we have been the supplier for many years to the Erie Beach Hotel in Port Dover for their pickled pumpkin," says Cheryl Peck, a fourth generation Haskett and manager of the pressing operation and Cider Keg shop. "We just delivered 500 kilograms of pumpkins this morning."

This most popular of fall squashes is not the only unexpected crop from their 180 hectares. Cheryl elaborates on the details of the season, from early summer through to apple harvest in the late fall.

"We start in the spring with 25 hectares of strawberries. They would be in the grocery stores as Granny's Best Strawberry Products or T&J Haskett Farms" (named for her parents, Tom and Joan, who own the farm). The berries, like much of the other produce, are also sold at their on-farm market.

The next vegetables to be harvested are the cucumbers - 28 hectares of them, grown for Bick's pickles. This year they experimented with a different variety on four hectares. "We tried trellising the vines, like a vineyard, so they would grow up plastic meshing," she explains

of a method that could save a lot of space, and make harvesting easier.

The Hasketts also grew about four hectares of tomatoes. Much of this crop was harvested while it was still green, and was shipped to Bick's to be made into relish.

Providing grading services for 80 other cucumber growers in their area adds more diversity to the farm's income, and to the myriad of skills required to make the whole operation work. Father Tom looks after growing the crops, while Cheryl multitasks with the cider production, sales and marketing.

"People will call and ask for the human resources department," she laughs. "I say OK, I guess that would be me."

The Cider Keg is located at 1231 Highway 24 South in Vittoria, and will ship small or large orders of their sparkling cider anywhere in Canada. Call 519-426-0705 for more information or visit their website ciderkeg.com.

**Family ties are precious threads
No matter where we roam.
They draw us close to those we love
And pull our hearts back home.**

Artists open their studios to public



Lena Medin-Russell

Artists open their studios to public

Adapted from an article in the Simcoe Reformer
By DANIEL PEARCE

Attention art-lovers from across Ontario: Norfolk County painters, sculptors, and potters are making their creations.

For the ninth year in a row, area artists opened their studios to the public over two days in September.

Hundreds of people from as far away as Peterborough, Toronto and Kitchener took part in the Norfolk Studio Tour.

They were presented with a brochure that includes a map showing 18 stops across the county with a brief description of the artist and what they make.

Thirty-four artists in all participated. Many of them picked up their paintbrushes or sat behind pottery wheels while strangers, as well as regular customers, came in and out of their studios.

Their works were for sale, but the tour is about more than that.

"It's also good for the artist to meet the people who are buying from them," said Joanne Munzar, a potter from Port Dover who founded the tour.

"It also means more to the people to be able to say 'I met the artist, I was at their studio, I had a great day.'

"They get to see how it's done, talk to the artist, and take a little piece home with them."

Many of each year's artists are familiar names on the local art scene. Showing are well known painters such as Ellen McIntosh-Green, Michael Barber, and George Conklin.

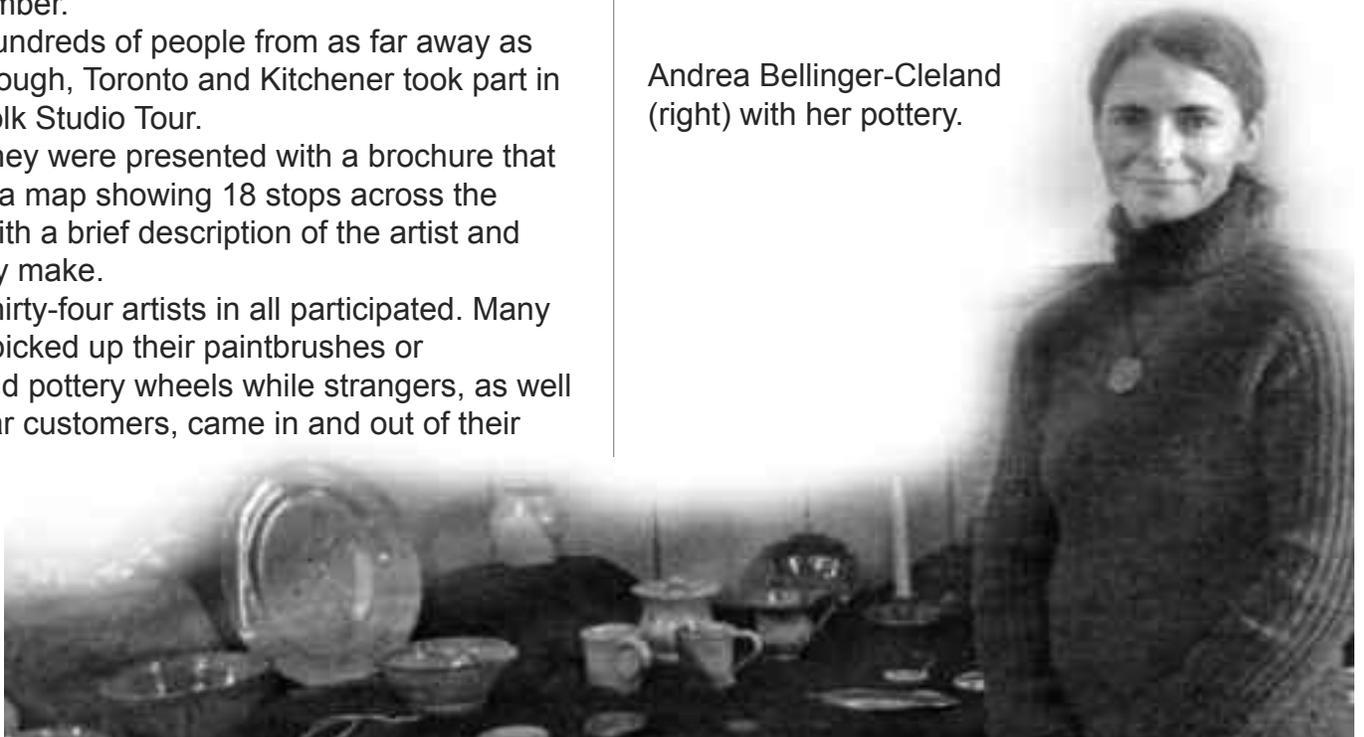
New faces included Vera Cline Hayes, a pen and ink artist, and Port Dover resident Harley Snively, who paints and carves wood.

Back after a one-year absence was Lena Medin-Russell, who showed paintings and driftwood sculptures out of a large red barn at the Normandale General Store.

Lena has been on the tour since it began and calls it "a show and tell" in which the client gets to see "the work that goes behind it."

"Everybody is so enthusiastic," she said. "You pick up things from them."

Andrea Bellinger-Cleland
(right) with her pottery.



Vittoria's Women's Institute



A NEW FLAG FOR VITTORIA was the highlight of the regular monthly meeting of the Vittoria Women's Institute.

November 11, 2009, was marked by the very special occasion of the raising of a new Canadian flag in the park at the Vittoria Town Hall. James Christison, Margaret Rose West and Bob Yearwood from the Simcoe Canadian Legion kindly took time from their very busy schedule to assist at this very special ceremony.

Thanks also to Norfolk County who have also helped to make this possible with providing the flag pole.

Other subjects discussed at the regular meeting portion of the day included the reports of the various committees and the planning of the December activities. A donation was made to the new fire hall in Vittoria and Remembrance Day was acknowledged with 2 minutes silence and the reading of the poem, "In Flanders Fields".

Another highlight of the day was winning third prize from the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario for the recruiting of new members.

Linda Vancso - An Inspiration to Us All!



Ruth Driedger, Lisa Daulby, Carol Chesney & Shelagh Driedger give Linda Vancso a retirement hug during her last day on the job.

From Norfolk General Hospital Happenings Newsletter

How does Linda Vancso stay so young? She let us in on a little secret during her retirement speech May 28. The key to staying young is to surround yourself with youthful, energetic, enthusiastic people with ambitious goals. The key to longevity is enjoying what you do and for Linda, she loved her job.

A packed Vittoria Community Centre joined Linda for a night of celebration. Her 46-year career at Norfolk General Hospital began with her appointment as Head Nurse at the age of 23. By 27, Linda was in charge of a brand new 34-bed surgical unit, "Surgical E", and the rest was history.

"I was an ordinary nurse who was offered extraordinary opportunities," said Linda. Her retirement celebration was a trip down memory lane, revisiting old friends, mentors and the many wonderful experiences shared.

Virginia Drayson



The winner of the Joan MacKellar Award for the most outstanding Special Event Coordinator in Canada for the year 2008 is Virginia Drayson of Simcoe, Ontario, who has been with Welcome Wagon since 1994.

Congratulations Virginia, for a job well done!

Drayson's dedicated service and hard work have been recognized by honours such as the National Joan MacKellar Award 2006; Representative of the Year 2008, 2006, 2002, 2001, 1999; Runner-Up 2003, 2000; Nominee 2005 and 1997 and now the National Joan MacKellar Award 2008.

The Joan MacKellar Award is presented annually to the most outstanding Welcome Wagon Special Event Coordinator in Canada. The Joan MacKellar Award was created to honour Joan, Chairman Emeritus, who began her career as a Special Event Coordinator for brides-to-be in Kitchener, Ontario. The winner of this National Award is selected from the Special Event Coordinator of the Year winners from each of the four geographic regions. Special Events include programs for brides-to-be, expectant mothers, pre-retirement and grandparents.

The winning Representative receives a Royal Doulton figurine and \$500 from the company along with a donation of \$1,500 for her favourite local charity. Virginia selected the Vittoria & District Foundation as recipient of the \$1,500 donation.

Virginia is honoured for her outstanding dedication to the local community, its residents and local sponsor service, her overall cooperation with all Welcome Wagon programs within her community, her sales ability, enthusiasm, dedication and her respect for the highest standard of proven business practices and Welcome Wagon policies.

Tom & Muriel Millar

The founder of community policing in Norfolk was recognized at a meeting of Norfolk council. Norfolk's Police Services Board agreed to present a plaque to Tom Millar and his wife Muriel, of Turkey Point, for their many years of service with the Charlotteville Community Policing Committee.

Staff Sgt. Rick Tout of the Norfolk OPP thought a plaque for the pair would be appropriate now that Tom has stepped down as the committee's chair and Muriel has stepped down as secretary. Both remain on the committee as representatives of Turkey Point.

Like most resort communities, cottage break-ins in winter were a chronic problem in Turkey Point before Tom and other year-round residents organized citizen patrols in the late 1970s. The group got busy after 11 cottages were broken into in one episode.

Tom reported recently that there have been no break-ins since the patrols' inception. At any time during the winter, any one of nine volunteers may be found in Turkey Point patrolling the community and on

the lookout for unusual activity and unfamiliar vehicles.

Although Tom has bowed out of the policing committee, he remains at the helm of the Turkey Point Property Owners Association. He looks forward to the day when a suitable replacement steps forward, but in the meantime he's enjoying his responsibilities.

"I'm still looking for someone to step forward and keep it going," he said. "I guess I'll have to goof up so they'll have to kick me off and find someone else to do it. But seriously, I enjoy what I'm doing. It keeps me young. I'm only 84."

For her part, Muriel says volunteerism is the price residents must pay for a secure, livable community.

"I enjoy what I'm doing. It keeps me young.

I'm only 84."

- Tom Millar

2010 Spaghetti Dinner and Auction

13th Annual World Famous Spaghetti Dinner & Auction

Saturday, March 20, 2010
Going ... Going ... Gone!

That's right! The Boosters Committee of The Vittoria & District Foundation will hold their 13th Annual World-Famous Spaghetti Dinner & Auction. Each year, we receive incredible support for our Auction from a large number of individuals and businesses which support the charitable projects and good works of the Foundation. If you can think of something you could contribute, please contact:

Tom Haskett - 426-0705
Larry Cable - 426-5923
Jim Melville - 428-0783
John Donaldson - 426-8583

The limited number of admission tickets have always been sold out very quickly, and well in advance of the event.



Alec Godden's latest metal sculpture, a magnificent owl on her nest, will be auctioned off on March 20th at the dinner and auction.

Looking back: A case of mistaken identity

Many Vittoria boosters will know that long-time Booster Editor Roger Cruickshank has been under the weather for a spell, and hopefully he will be back in the editor's chair soon. To give him (and the rest of us) a chuckle, let's look back to an excerpt from Vittoria Booster Edition No. 5, from spring 1999. Get well soon, Godfather!

Oops!

"The first call came in before noon on Monday. I glanced at the call display as I reached for the phone. The call was coming from our friend and neighbour, Larry Stanley. "Is this the Allan Smith residence?" asked Larry. "No," I responded. "This is the Twila and Roger Cruickshank residence."

"Larry chuckled for a moment and went on to explain that he had just received his Simcoe Reformer, and had noticed a picture of a couple he thought he recognized as Twila and me, but the caption really surprised and confused him"

(as it referred to a pastor and his wife inviting the "unchurched" to visit their Living Word Christian Fellowship. The reporter had taken Roger and Twila's picture to accompany an article about their book about Woodhouse

United Church, but the photos were accidentally switched as the newspaper went to press.

The reporter "made a sincere apology to us. Dozens of calls from friends followed - did we have friends or had we been cloned? We were not upset about the mistake," Roger wrote.

