

Neighbours

A part of the community since 1978 • Volume 3 • Number 3 • Summer 2000



A day at the races an “**electrifying**” experience

A team of Courtice Secondary School students showed their dedication to alternate energy sources by winning top honours at two prestigious electric car races this spring.

Students from Courtice Secondary School proudly display trophies won at recent electric car race events.

The students, who were supported by funding from Ontario Power Generation's Corporate Citizenship Program, developed a battery-powered vehicle from scratch under the watchful eyes of teachers and mentors such as Eric Jelinski from Darlington Nuclear.

“These cars are designed and built using recycled bicycle parts, a lot of ingenuity and a compulsive desire to succeed,” said Eric, a member of the Durham Electric Vehicle Club. They are capable of travelling up to 80 km/hour on a 12-volt or 24-volt car battery.

With help from mentors and teacher advisors, the manufacturing and communications technology students did all the work. The hubs, steering, linkage and axles were made in the school's machine shop and welding of the frame was done in the welding shop.

Then it was off to the races.

The first, the Great Electric Car Contest at Queen's University in Kingston, saw the Courtice team beat out 17 other schools from across the province in the 12-volt division. Results were based on distance travelled and time, vehicle design, safety and presentation of information and drawings. *(continued on page 2)*

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Site
Vice
President

Enjoying Our Community

A tiny dingle is Milk Wood

By Golden Grove 'neath Grongar

But let me choose and oh! I should

Love all my life and longer

Dylan Thomas

Dylan Thomas was a Welsh poet (Bob Dylan later adopted his name) who wrote *Under Milk Wood*, the most famous, and probably the best of all works written for radio. He performed the work in late October 1953 in New York City, and died a few days later. The poem is about a community, and takes the listener into the world of the people, sounds and atmospheres of Milk Wood, a small Welsh village.

I have enjoyed this poem since I was very young, and it always reminds me of the tremendous value that there is in living in one place, and watching and participating in the community life. To belong to a community, to contribute to it and enjoy it is a great privilege, and I feel like that about Clarington. I like the institutions and the seasons, I like the same events (Applefest, Duck Derby) coming around, and I like the balance of industry, residential, town and country that we live in.

We at Darlington have made many connections since we have been part of this community, and we understand the responsibility that we have to be open and honest about our activities, to operate our power plant safely, and to involve you in what we do. In this newsletter we try to share some of these things with you every quarter, and I hope that you find it useful. In this edition you will read about the Open House which we will hold on Sunday September 10th. I sincerely invite you to come along to the station and take a look at what we have to show you. It is really important to us that you know we are accessible to you. So do please visit us and take a look!

Risk Watch to be expanded



Darlington Public Affairs Manager Phil LeSavage, right, talks with students about the Risk Watch program.

Thanks to a donation under Ontario Power Generation's Corporate Citizenship Program, the Risk Watch pilot program, run by the Clarington Fire Department's Fire Prevention Office, will be expanded this fall.

Risk Watch was launched this past school year in three Bowmanville elementary schools. The program consists of teacher training and sets of teaching materials that cover the whole spectrum of safety issues at the Kindergarten through Grade 7 levels. The OPG donation will help offset the cost of the manuals and various teaching aids.

Darlington Nuclear also donated a thermal image scanning camera to the fire department. The nuclear station's Emergency Response Team had purchased three of these cameras which are used to detect heat sources — such as human bodies — through smoke.

Because Darlington Nuclear and the Clarington Fire Department work so closely together it was decided to donate one of the cameras to Clarington so firefighters could become familiar with it for their own use. It will also serve as a back-up camera for Darlington Nuclear.

A day at the races *(continued from page one)*

The second, the Electrathon at the Ottawa Capital City Speedway Track sponsored by the Electric Vehicle Council of Ottawa, saw 20 teams take part in the 24-volt competition, including four outside entries from private engineering firms. The race was a flying four-lap run for the best time, and when the dust had settled Courtice placed ahead of all the high school teams as well as two of the four private engineering entries.

Eric is proud of the young people involved in development of electric cars and credits volun-

teers who organize the races with helping students think about transportation alternatives and future career opportunities.

"There's a small army of enthusiasts and it's great to see sponsorship from large and small businesses, all working to get this new technology into the public domain," says Eric.

More information about the electric car races and electric vehicles in general is available at the Electric Vehicle Council of Ottawa web site at www.econogics.com.

EDITOR'S NOTE

We look forward to welcoming the community at our Open House on Sunday, Sept. 10. It was 10 years ago that our station generated its first power, and an enthusiastic team of employees has been busy planning a very special day to help mark the occasion.

To ensure this issue of *Neighbours* reaches you before the Aug. 24 in-plant tour registration cutoff, we've had to advance our publication date. This means information for two regular features — our Report Card and the Radiation Index — was not

JOIN US AT OUR OPEN HOUSE ON SEPTEMBER 10

available at press time. These features will return in our Fall issue. Anyone wishing information on the report cards or index should contact us after mid-August at: www.ontariopowergeneration.com or call 1-877-592-2555.

Registration forms for Open House plant tours are available by calling (905) 697-7502. Sign up for a walking tour of the station or bus tour of our facilities, and explore the many displays and exhibits. **Please join us on Sept. 10.**

Bob Beavers



New garden makes "scents" to the visually-impaired



A colourful, fragrant new garden has been established near the entrance to the Darlington Nuclear Information Centre thanks to the efforts of many partners.

Blue Heron Division Girl Guides created the garden as part of a millennium project which will see three gardens created in the Municipality of Clarington. Ontario Power Generation provided space for the first, the "Common Scents Garden," just west of the Information Centre entrance.

The Guides helped dig and plant the garden. Plants with a variety of fragrances were selected, making the garden particularly attractive to visually-impaired visitors.

"This project represents an enormous commitment to our community by our

Guides and partners," said Lorna McSwan, Blue Heron Division Commissioner, at the garden's official opening.



Officially opening the Scents Garden at the Darlington Nuclear Information Centre are from left, Mayor Diane Hamre, Terry Doran of Darlington Nuclear, Commissioner Lorna McSwan and MP Alex Shepherd.

"Our partners have donated time, skills and space. We, as Guides, have obtained trees, shrubs and flowers, planted the garden and agreed to be responsible for maintenance for a three-year period."

A second garden will be developed in Bowmanville and a third on private land offered to the Guides for overnight camping. The projects will receive up to one-third funding from the Canada Millennium Partnership Program.

Taking part in ribbon cutting ceremonies in June were MP Alex Shepherd, Clarington Mayor Diane Hamre, Commissioner McSwan and Terry Doran, Director of Site Support, OPG Darlington Nuclear.



Digging up their past

Grade 8 pupils at Waverley Public School celebrated their graduation in a unique way this spring — they took a look at the past.

Five years ago, the then-Grade 3 class prepared a time capsule and buried it in conjunction with the opening of the Darlington Nuclear portion of the Waterfront Trail. At the same time, they planted a tree to mark the occasion.

On June 1 of this year the class returned to retrieve the time capsule and plant another tree near the trail.

"We would like to thank one of the parents, Rick Skinner, for working with us and the school to celebrate the digging up of the time capsule," said Penny Waghorne, of Darlington Public Affairs.



Grade 8 pupils from Waverley Public School dug up time capsule they buried five years ago.

Included in the capsule was a booklet made by the students in Mrs. Allin's class five years ago. It was graciously donated to the Information Centre by the graduating class.

Meeting with our neighbours



Brian Jarvis of Darlington Nuclear Public Affairs talks with a family about safety during the Safe Kids Community Day this spring.

Darlington Nuclear Information Centre

Darlington Nuclear Information Centre is open to the public **Monday to Friday** from **8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** Public Affairs staff are available to explain how nuclear power works, answer questions and take you on a tour (call at least one day ahead for tours).

Our many interactive displays provide an interesting and enjoyable way to learn about nuclear power and issues surrounding it. Speakers are also available to address your community service group or school. Just give us a call and we'll come to you. **1-800-461-0034**

OPEN HOUSE at Darlington Nuclear Station this fall

Darlington Nuclear will welcome the community on September 10 when the station holds its first open house since June, 1996.

If you haven't already registered, please call **(905) 697-7502** to receive a registration form. The deadline is August 24, 2000.

Darlington Nuclear is pitching its tents at events across the community this summer.

Whether it's the recent Rubber Duck Derby, Backyard Festival, Clarington Safe Kids Community Day, the Ontario Summer Games 2000 or other events, we are there meeting with our neighbours.

Nearly 900 youngsters visited our display at the Safe Kids Community Day. It featured a draw for safety-related prizes including life jackets, bicycle helmets, water bottles, first-aid kits and in-line skating safety gear. The "Hazard Hamlet" display entertained and educated the young ones on electrical safety at home and at play.

Site Vice President Charles Packer was on hand at the Bowmanville Lions Club's Rubber Duck Derby to meet with our neighbours, chat about the Darlington stations and issue invitations to our Open House on Sept. 10. The younger set eagerly sought out the OPG sport tube necklaces in which they can store their valuables when at the beach or pool.

You can also catch us at the Darlington soccer fields where the Ontario Summer Games men's soccer competitions will be held August 11 - 13.

Darlington Public Affairs has two special occasion tents. One is ten feet by ten feet. The other is eight feet square. If your group or club might find these useful at an upcoming event, you can arrange to borrow them by calling the Darlington Information Centre at 1-800-461-0034. The group assumes responsibility for any damage. They are easy to put up and a brief demonstration will be given.



Darlington Nuclear Site Vice President Charles Packer (under tent), Public Affairs Manager Phil LeSavage, right and Site Support Director Terry Doran met with members of the public at the recent Rubber Duck Derby.

Neighbours

Darlington Neighbours

is published for the neighbours of Ontario Power Generation, Darlington Nuclear.

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