

# Tree planting workshop held in Orangeville

Ontarians are enthusiastically stepping up to help the provincial Ministry of Natural Resources meet its 2009 goal to plant 50 million trees by 2020 — the largest single commitment to the United Nations Billion Tree Program.

Seventy local landowners attended a community workshop in Orangeville hosted by Trees Ontario, the Ontario Forestry Association, the Grand River Conservation Authority and the Credit Valley Conservation Authority to learn about tree planting techniques, financial incentives like the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP) that can help reduce property taxes by up to 75%, along with ways to reduce their environmental footprint and how to participate in the 50 Million Tree Program.

Program, announced in August 2007 by Premier Dalton McGuinty, is the single largest commitment to the United Nations Billion Tree Campaign. "Landowners see the value in the Ontario government's tree planting incentives and are working with us to green up the province and reduce the effects of climate change while saving a significant amount of money," Donna Cansfield, Minister of Natural Resources. "With this growing interest, we should be well on our way to meeting our 50 Million Tree Program goal."

Seven similar workshops are being held across the province this winter. The free tree planting workshops are designed to inform and gain the commitment of Ontario landowners to participate in the 50 Million Tree Program. Local forestry experts

share information on subsidy and tax incentive programs, good forestry practices and how to plant trees and reduce costs.

"The winter series of workshops follows the highly successful fall workshops that saw many landowners from across the province step up and make planting commitments for the spring of 2009," said Michael Scott, President and CEO of Trees Ontario. "With these spring workshops, we are attracting more landowners - those converting their farmland, with vacation properties and those wishing to create a legacy. Everyone wants to help improve our environment."

Some of the financial incentives range from 10¢

a tree to as high as \$1.25, which can reduce the cost to the landowner to as low as 15¢, depending on the size of their land and the number of trees planted. In addition, the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP), administered by the OFA, can provide significant property tax reductions for landowners who own at least 10 acres or more of forested land. Eligible landowners work with a plan approver to prepare and follow a forest management plan. Upon acceptance into the program, the forested portion of the property is reassessed as managed forest and taxed at a reduced rate the following year for a period of 10 years.

## Local librarians running amok

The staff of Orangeville Public Library have concluded their amazing race to customer service and are on the move again.

This time, they are competing against other teams of library staff across the country and will be attempting to reach Vancouver before any other team by walking in Orangeville. They'll all be wearing pedometers and those steps will be calculated into kilometers as they move from Halifax to Vancouver.

Many of the library staff are so keen to reach the West Coast that they

are wearing them at home, on their walk to and from work and just about anywhere to make the steps count.

This fun venture is the creation of the social committee at Hamilton Public Library and they are the group who are co-ordinating all of the teams and keeping track of the steps and kilometers.

When you are in next, ask the person assisting you how far they have walked today.

A map of Canada will be put up in each branch so you can follow the progress.

## Nitrate facility raises questions

• From page A1

May 2008 – without public consultation.

Among other questions,

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residents wondered about the legality of a building permit for a \$2-million structure prior to permanent zoning and site-plan approval. In that respect, the application was filed when the East Luther Official Plan was still in effect but the OP amendment would be under the new ELGV OP.

Should the required OPA and zoning be refused by township council, asked a resident, would the township be on the hook for Orca's \$2-million building cost that arose from the federal licence.



Photo/DAN PELTON

40-YEAR MAN: The staff at Blackstock Ford Lincoln took time out last week to pay tribute to Garry Hunt, centre, who celebrated his 40th anniversary with the dealership, then known as Broadway Sales Ltd. Mr. Hunt began his tenure with the dealership right out of high school after being hired by Doc Gillies, right. Also shown in the photo is current dealership president Greg Blackstock.

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### Free Skate

1:00 pm- 1:50 pm & 4:00 pm- 4:50 pm  
(Red Rink)

Please Note: first come, first served.  
Brought to you by the Town of Orangeville's Accessibility Committee.

Please visit our booth in the lobby.

## CARRIER OF THE MONTH



Jacob Gauthier is a 14-year-old Westside student who has been delivering the Citizen for three years. His 61-paper route includes Cedar, Lawrence and Park Lane. When he's not going to school or delivering papers, Jacob plays bantam hockey with the Orangeville Flames. As far as the future is concerned, he aims to be a lawyer.

Brought to you by:



Robyn Gonsalves Community Relations Coordinator  
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# HOME OF THE WEEK!! YOUR RENOVATION AND HOME IMPROVEMENT "EXPERTS!!"

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Plans for design 7-3-969 are available for \$629 (set of 5), \$706 (set of 8) and \$755 for a super set of 10. Please add 5% G.S.T. or 13% H.S.T. (where applicable) to both the plan price and Priority charges. Our 40th Edition of the Home Plan Catalogue containing over 300 plans is available for \$13.50 (includes taxes, postage and handling). Make all cheques and money orders payable to "Home Plan of the Week" and mail to:

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