

WELCOME HOME!



Simcoe Reformer
The New Home for Your Community



Simcoe Reformer

WE PUT LOCAL NEWS FIRST

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2012

INSIDE



GARBURATORS

New and improved waste disposal technology making a comeback. **Page 3**



CURLING

The Dominion Ontario senior curling championships are taking place in Simcoe beginning today. **Page 6**

ONLINE POLL

Should Old Age Security start at age 67 instead of the current age?

- Yes
 - No
 - MPs need to adjust their own pensions first
- To vote go to www.simcoereformer.ca

■ ENERGY: Unique green power project near Waterford



MONTE SONNENBERG Simcoe Reformer

Tony Bouk of GreenBug Energy in Delhi kneels beside an Archimedes screw destined for a micro hydro project. GreenBug's first project will be installed at a horse farm east of Waterford.

The return of the screw

MONTE SONNENBERG
Simcoe Reformer

DELHI — An ancient invention with a high-tech twist will soon be producing renewable energy east of Waterford.

GreenBug Energy of Delhi is ready to go to market with its first hydro-electric project based on the Archimedes screw.

The screw is a large, auger-like device that will rest in a casing at an old dam on Nanticoke Creek

on the Fletcher Horse Farm north of Townsend Centre. The screw is 17 feet long and 52 inches in diameter. When the device comes on line, the Fletcher Horse Farm expects to cut its annual hydro bill by \$10,000 a year.

"We're just at the point where we are ready to go commercial," said Tony Bouk, a partner in the company. "We're really only going to market this year. Till now the focus has been on research."

see **ENERGY** | Page 2

■ PROUD EMPLOYEES: Outlet rated on sales, employment experience and charity work

Local store named Walmart of the year

SARAH DOKTOR
Simcoe Reformer

The local Walmart has been named store of the year.

The big-box outlet, located on the Queensway in Simcoe, was named the top store for Division 1 Wal-marts in Canada. Stores without a complete grocery section (including fresh produce) fall under the Division 1 category.

The award is based on a series of criteria including the store's sales

happening."

The award was presented on Feb. 8 during the final moments of a company conference in Toronto. Williamson said the award is all

"This is something we've been working at for years."

Mike Williamson,
store manager



■ PROFIT CENTRE

Port Dover marina gets top marks

DANIEL R. PEARCE
Simcoe Reformer

Port Dover's municipally-owned marina is one of the best run and most profitable in Ontario and has potential to do even better with some upgrades, council was told Tuesday night.

Ed Leeman, a consultant brought in to study the operation, suggested the marina be expanded, its amenities be improved, and the surrounding area be turned into a park-like setting.

“(Port Dover marina is) the most profitable marine operation I’ve seen by far.”

Consultant Ed Leeman

The 450-slip site could see a mixed use and “be integrated into a waterfront park” that would include a sailing school and community events, Leeman said.

The concept of boaters and members of the public using the same site has worked at a marina in Kingston, said Leeman, who lives in that city.

“It can be done.” The county took over the marina from the federal government a few years ago and since then it has returned a profit to the county of \$200,000 to \$335,000 a year.

Leeman called the operation “excellent” and said “it is one of the most efficient operations I’ve encountered in the 45 years I’ve been in the business.”

It is also “the most profitable marine operation I’ve seen by far,” he added.

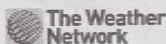
Investing in upgrades will add more revenue, he said. The number of slips available in Ontario is shrinking every year while the number of boats is growing, he noted.

Municipally-run marinas, Leeman said, are “ideally suited” to invest in upgrades because they can afford the 10-15 year payback period.

More than half the people who use the marina drive at last half an hour from out of town to get there and in effect become tourists.

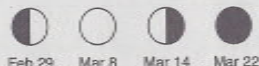
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5 Day Simcoe Area forecast



For up to date weather- www.TheWeatherNetwork.com

Today	Local Forecast
Today	Mainly cloudy with a few flurries ending in the morning, variably cloudy in the afternoon (pop 40%). Winds southwesterly 35km/h. Windchill -3.
3/-2	Tonight
Tomorrow	Mainly clear with cloudy periods.
5/-1	Tomorrow
Friday	Mainly cloudy with isolated showers (pop 40%). High 5. Low -1.



Skies

Sunrise: 7:08 a.m.
Sunset: 6:01 p.m.
Hours of Sunlight: 10hrs, 53mins.
Moonrise: 7:04 a.m.
Moonset: 7:09 p.m.

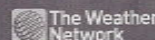


Canada	today
Barrie	flurries 3 -3
Brandon	p.cloudy 1 -9
Calgary	m.sunny 4 -9
Charlottetown	rain/snow 2 -3
Collingwood	rain/snow 3 -1
Edmonton	flurries 2 -10
Fredericton	rain/snow 5 -4
Gander	p.cloudy -2 -4
Goose Bay	flurries -15 -17
Iqaluit	sunny -24 -30
Halifax	rain/snow 5 0
Kingston	showers 4 0
Kitchener	p.cloudy 3 -3
London	p.cloudy 4 -2
Moncton	rain/snow 4 -3
Montreal	rain/snow 5 -3
Niagara	rain/snow 4 -2
Ottawa	showers 4 -2
Pelly Sound	snow 2 -1
Peterborough	rain/snow 4 -3
Quebec C.	flurries 3 -4
Regina	rain/snow 1 -5
Saint John	p.cloudy 5 -2
Sarnia	p.cloudy 6 0
Saskatoon	flurries 0 -7
St. John's	m.sunny 0 -1
Sydney	flurries 2 0
Toronto	p.cloudy 5 -3
Vancouver	m.sunny 9 3
Victoria	sunny 9 3
Whitehorse	p.cloudy -3 -17
Windsor	p.cloudy 6 1
Sydney	sunny 24 20
Winnipeg	flurries -4 -10
Yarmouth	rain 7 3
Yellowknife	flurries -13 -25

Today's Almanac
Temperature
Normal High 0.6° Low -8.7°
Rec. High 15/1930
Rec. Low -25/1936
Precipitation
Today's Normals 2.8mm
UV forecast
Today's UV index: 2 Low



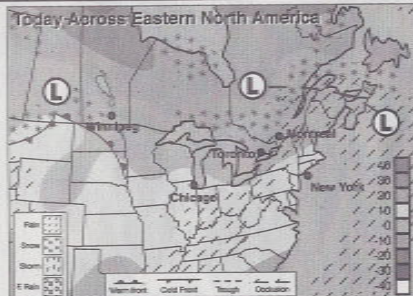
Q/-4 ©The Weather Network: 2012



Know what the weather will be 14 days from now
Check the 14 day trend.

The World tomorrow

Acapulco	sunny	33	24
Athens	cloudy	16	7
Beijing	cloudy	4	-2
Berlin	showers	10	5
Brussels	rain	11	4
Cancun	p.sunny	29	23
Dom. Rep.	p.cloudy	28	22
Dublin	cloudy	12	11
Geneva	cloudy	9	-1
Hong Kong	p.cloudy	22	20
Kingston	sunny	31	24
Lisbon	sunny	18	6
London	cloudy	15	10
Madrid	sunny	16	-3
Manila	sunny	33	24
Melbourne	sunny	26	19
Mexico City	sunny	22	8
Moscow	rain	2	-6
Mumbai	sunny	36	23
Munich	cloudy	7	0
Nassau	sunny	29	19
Paris	rain	10	3
Rome	sunny	15	4
Singapore	p.sunny	32	26
Sydney	sunny	24	20
Tokyo	rain	14	10
Vienna	cloudy	9	3
Warsaw	rain	2	2



United States today

Atlanta	p.cloudy	20	12
Atlantic C.	p.cloudy	15	7
Boston	showers	12	3
Buffalo	showers	4	3
Chicago	cloudy	10	3
Dallas	sunny	25	11
Detroit	p.cloudy	8	1
L. Vegas	sunny	23	9
L. Angeles	sunny	21	12
Memphis	showers	21	13
N. Orleans	showers	23	17
New York	cloudy	12	6
Orlando	p.cloudy	26	16
Philadelph.	cloudy	15	5
Pittsburgh	showers	10	3
San Diego	sunny	23	10
San Fran.	p.cloudy	17	7
Washington	p.cloudy	16	7

ENERGY

Versions of screw centuries old

FROM PAGE 1

The device is named after Archimedes (287 B.C.-212 B.C.), a mathematician, engineer and inventor in ancient Greece who discovered many of the basic principles of hydraulics. Primitive agrarian societies have used hand-cranked versions of Archimedes' screw for centuries to move water around their fields in irrigation canals.

The screws GreenBug is making are deceptively complicated. Before designing a dynamo, the company collects data related to the historic flow rate of a targeted watercourse.

These numbers are inserted into mathematical formulas which determine the length and diameter of an ideal screw, the gauge of the metal necessary for this purpose, and the

proper angles of the flanges that catch the water. GreenBug has developed algorithms and a proprietary spreadsheet which spit out the dimensions needed for optimal performance.

Archimedes' screw is well-suited to power generation because it lends itself to heavy-duty design. The screws are built to rotate in a water stream for as long as 40 years without maintenance or upgrades.

The Fletcher project cleared a major hurdle when it recently received a passing grade on an environmental assessment. Of primary concern is the screw's impact on fish and other aquatic wildlife. The devices are so large and slow turning that fish pass through them unharmed. At peak flows, the Fletcher screw will rotate at a rate of 43 revolutions per minute.

GreenBug is not aiming at the feed-in-tariff market (FIT). Rather, it hopes to help municipalities, conservation authorities and private landowners exploit water flows on their property for the production of in-house power. Bouk knows of hundreds of sites where a custom screw could be used to produce free electricity. No other company in Ontario is tapping this market.

"We're really trying to nail this stuff down," Bouk said. "It'll probably be sometime this fall. But when we go we'll be ready."

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INVESTIGATION

Shots fired in Brantford parking lot

QMI Agency

Shots fired in the parking lot behind a plaza on West Street which includes Service Ontario office on Tuesday sparked a flurry of police activity in an area that included a housing complex at the end of Charing Cross Street.

Police haven't issued extensive comment or statement about the incident but it is believed that it started just after 2 p.m. when some undercover Brantford police officers surrounded a vehicle in the parking lot of the West Street plaza.

The vehicle apparently spun around in an attempt to escape and shots were reportedly fired.

"We don't have information to release right now. We are waiting to hear about the extent of the injuries from the collision," Brantford police Staff Sgt. Cheney Venn said Tuesday afternoon.

Two shell casings could be seen on the pavement at the far end of the parking lot. They were later marked and photographed by a Brantford police identification officer.

around a vehicle in the parking lot which was occupied by Krista Brak.

"This hasn't been a good two weeks," Brak said. "I came in here to get a new ownership because mine was stolen when our van was stolen out of our driveway two weeks ago."

This hasn't been a good two weeks.

Krista Brak, driver

"I'm in the office (Service Ontario) and all the girls start looking out the window and telling me about police being out there."

Brak heard noises, a kind of banging sound like a door closing and when she returned to the vehicle — a rental — there was some damage just above the passenger's side brake light. The damage was a long scrape that ran

wait until the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) had arrived.

The SIU investigates incidents involving police including shootings.

Shortly afterward, police also went to another report of a disturbance on Charing Cross Street, where a number of cruisers and officers in tactical gear surrounded a pale red-brick apartment complex at 234 Charing Cross St. The building backs onto a slope through which there is pedestrian access to Harris Avenue and the Service Ontario plaza.

Shortly before 4 p.m. Brantford police and RCMP officers left the Charing Cross building, piling into their various vehicles and leaving the parking lot. Officers could be seen on a third-floor balcony directly above the building's main entrance.

Some residents in the Charing Cross complex said they had seen one other person apprehended by police in the field between the apartment and Harris Avenue earlier in the afternoon.

"We're in a holding pattern here