



Illustration by Connor Saucier

The GREEN Column

Tri-Valley Conservation award winners

The Tri-Valley Conservation Awards Gala was held in Manotick on April 18 at the Rideau Valley Conservation Centre. Katfish Morgan from Live 88.5 FM was Master of Ceremonies. The Tri-Valley Conservation Awards includes Mississippi, Rideau and South Nation Conservation Authorities. The people, institutions, and businesses receiving awards have made exceptional efforts to help improve the health of our watersheds. In the primary school category, Churchill Alternative School in Ottawa was nominated as well as local Science teacher Joyce Chartrand from Ecole Publique de la Riviere Castor School in Embrun. Mme Chartrand helped establish a beautiful nature walk behind the school and organized E-waste Days at the school, diverting tons of electronic equipment from landfill. The school is hosting another E-Waste day next weekend at the school. Joyce was one of the finalists and placed second overall. She received a plaque that will proudly be displayed at the school.

In the Intermediate High School Category, St.



On April 18 at the Tri-Valley Conservation Awards Gala, St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic High School was awarded as the top high school in the Ottawa and Valley area for their Environmental Stewardship efforts. Principle Richard James stands with STA Environmental Lead Teacher Ann Jackson and High Skills Major Program

Thomas Aquinas High School won first place. This school is on the environmental map. They have been involved in community

cleanups and the school recycles batteries. Students collect milk bags, reducing garbage at landfill and recycle the plastic into crocheted

plastic mats for Haiti. The school also assists with the Living Locally Fair held each year at the school and students are most helpful. They have a green house and a Giving Garden where they grow vegetables and flowers. They also participate in the Envirothon. Congratulations to St. Thomas for your exceptional environmental awareness and to teacher Ann Jackson and principal Mr. James.

Parmalat of Winchester won for their concern of watershed health in the Business Category. McGarry Funeral Homes were also nominated because they plant a tree for every person they honour.

All recipients were deserving of their awards. There are many silent knights doing their part. Life-time recipient Floyd Dingwall set up a memorial tree park "McIntosh Park" in Berwick. Floyd has been involved with SNC for over 20 years. He also was involved in municipal politics for many years.

This column would also like to congratulate the Russell Scouts for their E-waste day on Earth Day! Green Thumbs Up!

TAKE NOTE: Geochachers will be cleaning up "Cache In - Trash Out" next Sat., April 28 at SNC Park in Casselman at 8 a.m. There will be a breakfast served. They can contact SNC at 1-877-984-2948 and ask for Tim Jackson or go to SNC website at www.nation.on.ca