

# Hair Dare Dukes return

Paul Harrington of Ruscom Station, his wife Cheryl, and son Lance Brown, along with family members and some very close friends, have united once again to hold the Hair Dare Dukes Weekend, Car Show, Swap Meet and Cut-A-Thon Cancer Benefit.

Scheduled for Saturday, August 23 and Sunday, August 24 at the Leamington Fairgrounds, the Hair Dare event, now in its sixth year, celebrates the classic TV show "The Dukes of Hazzard" as its theme.

"The reason I keep this event going is it is the only way that I know I can help make a little bit of a difference," Harrington says. "We can share our feelings with others about this sickness, because at least 90 percent of the population out there knows someone that has died from cancer."

Though he began the event in 2003 in honour of his mother, a cancer survivor, this year is even more meaningful for Harrington.

"In February of this year, we lost another great man, my boss of almost 11 years and close family friend Steve Stowe, to this dreadful disease.... What hurts me the most, Steve was the only reason I became a licensed automotive technician, and during his short stay in the hospital we talked about a lot of things. I mentioned to Steve what we were planning this year as a charity, and he said, 'That's great, Paul.' I will remember those words for as long as I live."

A special memorial will be held for Steve Stowe on



Hair Dare Dukes Day: Byron Cherry, an actor who played Coy Duke on the 1980s hit television show Dukes of Hazzard, left, and Ruscom resident Paul Harrington pose with the General Lee in 2006 during the fourth annual Hair Dare Dukes Day.

the Sunday of the event, at 2 p.m. at the fairgrounds.

The past five years of the Hair Dare event have raised more than \$28,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society.

For this year's event, Harrington and his sister, Debra-Ann Taylor of Tilbury, contacted St. Clair College to start a Scholarship Fund for a Student Surviving Cancer. The scholarship will be put into place with the help of Susan Maxwell, executive director of the St. Clair College Foundation, and Lynn McGeachy Schultz, director of advancement at Thames Campus, Chatham.

"I think this was a great choice that we made," Harrington says. "At least we can see where the money is going, and it will be helping a local student that is surviving cancer."

One way the event raises money is through pledges for "Hair Dares" – when participants vow to daringly cut or shave their hair for the cause. Haircuts on Saturday will be provided

by Estelle's Affordable Hair Cuts from Chatham, and on Sunday by Mastercuts of the Devonshire Mall.

Saturday morning will start with a "Parade of All Cars". Participants should meet at the Comfort Inn in Leamington at 8 a.m. The parade route is from the Comfort Inn to the Leamington Fairgrounds.

There will be several special guests at this year's event. Don Pedro Colley, who portrayed Sheriff Ed Little on the Dukes, will sign autographs and chat with fans. He'll be joined by Byron Cherry, who played Coy Duke in the series.

Felix Silla, a prolific classic TV actor who portrayed the alien visitor in the Dukes episode "Strange Visitor to Hazzard," will appear for the first time at the event. Silla also played Cousin Itt on The Addams Family, and was Twiki on Buck Rodgers in the 25th Century. He also portrayed an Ewok on Star Wars, and appeared in The Planet of the Apes and Batman Returns.

All the actors will be signing photos and other items all weekend long, and there will be a lot of photo opportunities for the fans, Harrington says.

Also appearing at the event will be Billie Rae

Bates of Atlanta, Georgia, author of the "Them Dukes! Them Dukes!" reference guide. Will Rodgers, aka "The Voice Man", of Chattanooga, Tennessee, will be returning to warm the crowds again.

"Will's voice impersonations are just overwhelming, from all of the Dukes cast members to the All in the Family theme song," Harrington says.

Billy Stephenson will be making his way on stage, all the way from Georgia, just a few hours from where the Dukes started out.

"We have a few extras who were in the Dukes of Hazzard 2005 movie that will be here as well," Harrington says, including himself.

Harrington has been a lifelong Dukes fan and not only owns his own General Lee, a 1969 Dodge Charger painted orange, but also Hazzard County Sheriff's cars from both the series and the 2005 movie. He is currently building a Monster 4x4 General Lee and a Cooter Tow Truck. He has collected Dukes memorabilia for many years, including genuine props from the filming of the series and the 2005 Dukes Movie.

Other events planned for the Hair Dare Dukes Weekend include the Smack A Wreck, a Daisy Duke look-alike contest, and the dunk tank. The Memphis Kings, a band from Essex County, will be on stage Saturday, and country singer Traci Kennedy from St. Thomas will be appearing on Sunday. There will be plenty to see and do for the two full days of family fun and entertainment.

"A special thanks goes out to all the local newspapers that help us put this out in print so the public can read about this event," Harrington says.

## PAQUETTE

Annual Curtis Reunion at Toddy James Park in Amherstburg on August 17 from 1-5 p.m.

## BAKERVILLE

Weather this past week has been extremely hot but by the weekend cooled off and is enjoyable.

The ploughmen had a great day on Saturday for the country ploughing match with a large crowd in attendance.

Happy Birthday wishes on Thursday to Gillian Diemling who is marking up # 7. She is the youngest daughter of Mike and Denise and granddaughter of Red and Rita Cosgrove. Also this day Rose Smith celebrates another year and on Saturday to Cary Halt and on Sunday to Sharman Dickie, nee Jarriett. Best of wishes on your birthday.

Happy Anniversary to Carl and Rose Smith as they celebrate #45 and on Wednesday next week to Bill and Margaret Trimble as they celebrate #52 already. We wish you both many more healthy happy years together.

The Pleasant Valley Community Club members are busy as beavers playing

cards and the lucky folks were Eileen Ames, Mike Foldese, Marie Elwood, Charlie Chevalier, Elaine Taylor & Thomas Allison.

At the regular euchre party last Saturday evening the lucky folks were Mary Demars, Keith Dresser, Helen Slavik, Reba Knight, Eileen Salter, George Davidson, Ruth Ferguson & Garnet Galloway.

Door Prizes to Thomas Allison & Herald Ferguson.

Everyone is welcome to join in with friends and neighbours on Tuesday or Saturday evening for some great card games beginning at 7 p.m.

The Essex County Steam and Gas Show is this weekend at Co-An Park.

So pack up the car with your family and come on out. Friday is seniors day and our feature tractor this year is John Deere. We have Riverlight Harmony Chorus and Leamington Acres Skippers and Dale Butler Trio on Friday and on Saturday we have the parade at 9 a.m. and on stage the Skippers and Erin Gignac sings and the Dale Butler Trio and on Sunday we have the Skippers again and Erin Gignac and the Tetrault family from Mitchell's Bay whose youngest son does Stompin Tom.

## Homestead's Blueberry Social

What's big, blue and lots of fun? It's the John R. Park Homestead's Annual Blueberry Social and Craft Fair, Saturday, Aug. 9 and Sunday, Aug. 10 from 10 am to 4 pm both days. "Berry exciting" activities will include delicious blueberry pies and blueberry ice cream sundaes served at the Lions Club food booth, visitors can pick their own blueberries at Klassen's farm and children can enjoy supervised blueberry games near the livestock paddock, where they can pat the sheep. Pony rides will also be available on the Sunday.

The event also features more than 20 high quality, unique craft vendors offering everything from gourmet

preserves to fine china ornaments. The Leamington Weavers' Guild will be back by popular demand with their interesting program demonstrating carding, spinning and weaving. Adding to the festivities, visitors can tap their toes to the music of the Essex County Ramblers on Saturday and the Hometown Band on Sunday.

Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children ages 3-16, children ages 2 and under free. Family maximum is: \$15.

The Homestead is located on County Road 50, east of Colchester. For more information, please call: 519-738-2029, email jrph@erca.org, or check out the website at www.erca.org.

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Applications and/or resumes are now being accepted for our 2008 fall and winter positions. Please visit the Town of Essex Web Site at [www.essex.ca](http://www.essex.ca) under the EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES link to view the various positions.

Applications may also be picked up in person at the Municipal Town Hall office located at 33 Talbot Street South, Essex or are available on our website (Forms & Applications/Parks & Rec.)

**If applying for more than one position please submit a resume and/or application for each position.**  
(Please clearly mark which position you are applying for.)

For more information contact:  
Town of Essex  
(519) 776-7336 x30

*Personal information collected through the recruitment process will be used solely to determine eligibility for employment. We thank all candidates in advance, however only those being considered for an interview will be contacted.*

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**TOWN OF ESSEX**

*The Town of Essex  
requires an interested citizen  
to act as a  
Crossing Guard  
for the intersection of Brien  
Avenue & Gosfield Townline*

*Interested parties  
should submit their  
name by Wednesday,  
August 20, 2008*

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