

Magnetics and motorcycles

Hi-tech tests are in plane view

By DEANNA SIMPSON
High technology has entered the aviation scene at Markham Airport.

The facility has been hosting tests of new products, to research and improve them before being put on the market.

From a helicopter, Markham's Geotech has been testing electromagnetic measurement systems, which indicate how well the earth conducts electricity.

The information is used to locate bodies of minerals such as copper or gold. Different areas have varying conductivity readings, depending on the presence of these minerals.

"(Making these measurements) is the principle purpose of the instruments, and the information helps prospecting and geological mapping," says research geophysicist Scott Holladay.

He said the airport, located on Hwy 48, was a prime location because there aren't any surrounding powerlines and car traffic in the area.

"The airbase is also safe enough for us to use the equipment without worrying about theft," he said.

Geotech's been carrying out these tests for the last five years, but the new ownership of Allen Ruben has been particularly helpful.

Also testing at the airport is Yamaha of Canada, which has been refining a production model of their Terrapro all-terrain utility vehicle.

The product was tested in mid-January at Atlanta, Georgia, with one of its two attachments, a lawn cutter. The airport was loaned the vehicle for the summer, after a few minor problems were corrected.

"This airport will probably cut more grass in one season than the average person will in five years," claims Yamaha spokesman Brian Rolls.

Since the arrival of the Terrapro at the Airport, insiders say "everyone wants to cut the grass."



Jim Packard, owner of Packard Engineering at the Markham airport, checks out Yamaha's new all-terrain utility vehicle. Mr. Packard says airport staff have been asked to use the new Yamaha vehicle "to destruction", to test its endurance.
— Deanna Simpson

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Fall follies for charity

Enjoy an evening of "Diamond Lil" at Canada's Wonderland's "Fall Follies".

Canterbury Theatre is the stage for the Sept. 25 show, which includes A.R. Borgy, Borgerson and Musicians. The show begins at 8 p.m.

Presented by the York Central Hospital Auxiliary, this evening of entertainment includes hot snacks and hors d'oeuvres served during the intermission.

Draw prize will be a trip for two to Florida, courtesy of Wardair Holidays.

Tickets are \$20 each and can be obtained by calling 773-4796 or 883-2032.

Target set for funds

A mere \$288,000 is peanuts to the Markham Kidney Foundation.

To date the Peanut Campaign, a major fundraiser for the Markham branch of the Kidney Foundation, has raised \$117,792, but plan to raise as much as \$288,000 by campaign's end.

September 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the Chimo Hotel is the grand kick-off for the campaign.

The evening promises to be one of information and celebration, with guest speaker Eileen Young, the organ transplant co-ordinator from Toronto Western Hospital.

For more information, please contact the Kidney Foundation at 475-0978.