



### FOTEK Saves Feeder Lands

Friends of the Eramosa Karst (FOTEK) was created in 2007 by Hamilton citizens wanting to protect the Eramosa Karst lands, which was achieved in 2008. Their goal was to have the 80 acres of “feeder” land adjacent to the Eramosa Karst protected as well. Since their beginning, FOTEK have held public events to educate the public, organized clean-ups, and lobbied all levels of government. This year FOTEK finally succeeded in having the feeder lands protected through a lease agreement between Hamilton Conservation Authority and the province of Ontario. To further help protect the Eramosa Karst, FOTEK recently presented the Hamilton Conservation Foundation with a cheque for \$10,000. In Autumn 2008 *Escarpment Views* published an article about the Karst by Rita Giulietti of FOTEK. PHOTO COURTESY OF HAMILTON CONSERVATION AUTHORITY.

—Amanda Grant

### Environmentally-Friendly Farm Awarded

Monika Caemmerer of Believe Farm, Acton, won the 2013 Can-Am Annual Environment Award for her environmentally friendly practices including a geothermal heating system, the use of zeolite for the control of dust and ammonia for the horses, an Eco-Grid beneath sand paddocks for drainage, an eco studio, and a photovoltaic solar system on the barn roof. The Summer 2009 issue of *Escarpment Views* contains a photo of a celebration of the installation of this solar project.

PHOTO BY FREDERIC CAEMMERER.



### Increase Oxygen While Watering

Pure RainT nozzles, wands and ground sprinklers use “micro-bubble” technology to increase oxygen in ordinary tap or well water. This extra oxygen is said to help plants absorb nutrients faster and increase the growth of leaves. Available as a Hand-Held, Reach and Water Station version, at large hardware stores. See [purerain.com](http://purerain.com).

### More Rare Tufa Found Near Escarpment

Credit Valley Conservation (CVC) staff have discovered rare tufa deposits near the Escarpment at Belfountain and Silver Creek conservation areas. Tufa is a type of rock that is naturally produced from calcium carbonate, and in Ontario is found at waterfalls and springs. Tufa has been found at Brantford, Dundas, Niagara Falls and Paris, and last year, at the two CVC conservation areas. “I would love to see geologists visit Belfountain to shed more light on the significance of this phenomenon,” notes Leanne Willis, Natural Areas Inventory Field Technician at CVC. “There is thus far little documentation of Ontario tufa deposits, and likely more to be found on the Escarpment. The calcium-rich limestone of the Escarpment is an integral component.” Right, mound of white tufa covered by moss at Belfountain. PHOTO BY LYNDA RUEGG.



### Books Bound for Ontario First Nation

Teen sisters Emma and Julia Mogus of Oakville, founders of Books With No Bounds, are tireless in their efforts to send books and supplies to Aboriginal children and youth of the 49 communities of the Nishnawbe Aski Nation in northern Ontario. At time of printing, more than 17,500 books have been sent so far. For more information and to help the cause, see [bookswithnobounds.com](http://bookswithnobounds.com). PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS.

### Textures Celebrates 30 Years

Since 1983, Textures of Locke Street in Hamilton has been a not-for-profit collective for local artisans to market their work in a retail gift shop staffed by member artisans. More than 200 fledgling artisans have been mentored and more than 50 local artisans are now members. Textures has won numerous and various local awards. PHOTO BY SANDRA RODWELL.

