



LOCAL PRODUCERS: Rosemary and Peter Robart-Morgan, farm on former Hwy. 25, north of Acton raising chicken, lamb and turkeys as well as vegetable produce. They were at St. Alban's farm market when Nancy McLelland caught them with her lens.

Police arrest four for theft from vehicles

Last weekend a group of young men, described as 18 to 25 years old, were seen on Kingham Road vandalizing a car in which they ripped the mirrors off, kicked the car, threw a bottle through the rear window and did \$3,000 in damage.

On Monday Aug 31, a resident on Beardmore Drive heard some unfamiliar noises just before 4am and noticed four males entering vehicles. Halton Police responded and subsequently arrested all four, three of whom were young offenders. Police also recovered several items including GPS units.

All four were charged with theft under \$5,000 while one had an additional charge of possession of a controlled substance. One young offender was referred to the Youth Diversion program.

Ottawa working to convince U.S. to reverse 'Buy American'

Report from

PARLIAMENT HILL

By Mike Chong

MP Wellington/ Halton Hills



In recent months, "Buy American" provisions have crept into U.S. government policy at the state and municipal level. These provisions affect major Canadian manufacturers and smaller companies alike. While the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) binds national level governments from erecting trade barriers, it is not applicable to provincial/state or municipal level governments. As a result, many Canadian companies who sell their goods to American state and municipal governments have been prevented from doing so.

At Hayward Gordon, a firm located in Halton Hills that sells industrial water systems (for sewage treatment systems, etc.), these "Buy American" provisions have resulted in a drop in their sales to the U.S.. Recently, Mayor Rick Bonnette raised awareness about this issue by successfully passing a motion at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities that called for Canadian products to be included in U.S. state and municipal stimulus spending.

Over the last number of months, our government

has been working to convince the Americans to reverse these "Buy American" policies. We have taken every opportunity to urge the President of the United States to live up to their international trade and NAFTA commitments. Both in public, and behind the scenes, we have been working to persuade the Americans that these "Buy American" provisions are not in their interest or ours. International Trade Minister Stockwell Day and I have been working on this file, as has Prime Minister Harper. Recently, the Prime Minister voiced his concerns directly to President Obama at the North American Leaders' Summit in Guadalajara, Mexico.

During this time of global economic recession, it is crucial that all nations resist the temptation to move towards protectionism. Open and growing trade with others is crucial to Canada's economy and to our economic recovery.

Various nations responded to the Great Depression by enacting protectionist trade measures that led to spiralling retaliatory measures from other nations. In turn, this increased the depth and length of the Great Depression. This is a lesson we need not repeat again.

It is important that trade within Canada be improved as well. Believe it or not, there are more trade and labour mobility barriers within Canada, than there are among the member nations of the European Union. Provinces in Canada, and states in the United States, need to eliminate inter-provincial trade barriers. Our government is committed to eliminating these inter-provincial trade barriers, as we begin negotiations on a Canada-European Union free trade deal. It is crucial that Canadian provinces agree to that goal.

In coming days, International Trade Minister

Stockwell Day will be meeting with U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk to seek exemptions for Canada from these "Buy American" provisions. In addition, the Prime Minister has indicated that he will, once again, raise these concerns at greater length directly with President Obama in their meeting at the White House in mid-September, as well as at the G-20 economic summit later that month. Our government understands the importance of this issue to the livelihood and jobs of thousands of Canadians, like Hayward Gordon in Halton Hills, and we are very focused on working to ensure that the U.S. understands the our concerns and acts to resolve this issue.

If you wish to find out more or have any enquiries, please contact me at chongm@parl.gc.ca or at (866) 878 5556. Hon. Michael Chong, M.P. Wellington-Halton Hills

In addition, we can talk about this and other issues at the Town Hall meeting I am hosting on Wednesday, Sept 2, 2009 at the John Elliot Theatre (Georgetown) from 7-9pm.

Time to register for fall, winter activities



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GIRL GUIDES OF CANADA
FALL REGISTRATION
Wednesday, September 9, 2009
7:00 to 8:00pm
St. Alban's Church,
19 St. Alban's Drive, Acton

Fun, Friendship and Adventure for Girls
Sparks (ages 5 and 6)
Brownies (ages 7 and 8)
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1st ACTON SCOUTING
Registration Night
Wednesday, September 9, 2009
7:00 - 8:00p.m.
St. Albans Church - 19 St. Alban's Drive, Acton

Beavers (ages 5-7) <i>Meet Wednesdays</i>	}	Boys and Girls as of December 31st, 2009
Cubs (ages 8-10) <i>Meet Thursdays</i>		
Scouts (ages 11-13) <i>Meet Tuesdays</i>		
Venturers (ages 14-17)		

Registration Fee Only
\$185
Contact: George Henderson at 519-853-2751