

GRAPE VINE

up for auction include about 200 bicycles in addition to assorted personal items. Viewing of the merchandise is scheduled from 8:30 am to 9:30 am with the auction starting at 9:30 sharp in the underground parking lot.

Halton Regional Police Services headquarters in located at 1151 Bronte Rd., in Oakville, north of the QEW.

MP Reed earns his keep

If parliamentary voting was an Olympic event Halton-Peel MP Julian Reed would finish just out of the medal standings. The first time Member of Parliament recorded a 97 per cent attendance rating. The report was issued by the House of Commons Reference Service.

"It is sometimes very difficult to make all of the votes but, voting is one of the most important responsibilities of an MP," Reed said, adding, "We normally get advanced notice of votes, however this Spring was very hectic and votes were happening at any time which makes scheduling very difficult."

An Ottawa newspaper based on Parliament Hill listed the top and bottom ten MP's in terms of voting attendance. Fellow Liberal MP John Loney and Bloc MP Pierre Brien tied for the best record at 100 per cent. Federal Tory leader Jean Charest only managed to make it to voting sessions eight per cent of the time.

Cops auction annual

The Halton Regional Police Service will be holding their annual Region-wide Auction at Police Headquarters in Oakville Sat. Sept. 7. Items

Golfing for charity

The Optimist Club of Georgetown is once again presenting the Optimist Mayor's Annual Golf Tournament on Aug., 27 at the Georgetown River's Edge Golf & Country Club. The money raised from the tournament goes to help the youth of Georgetown through the Optimist Club charities.

A round of golf (18 holes) goes for \$90 with lunch, dinner, use of a golf cart and a prize included in the price. In addition, golfers have the opportunity to play for trophies, participate in a lucky draw and a putting contest. Four hole-in-one prizes are up for grabs as well, with prizes ranging from a Nissan vehicle, and Air Canada Dream Vacation, a Duncana Gas Grill or \$1000.

Area businesses are also being asked to sponsor holes for \$100 each. With only 18 holes available, those are sure to sell out quickly. Companies, associations and individuals who make donations and sponsorships will have their names listed in the tournament program.

For further information contact Scott Campbell, tournament chairman at 873-7991.



25-YEAR MEMBERS!

The Georgetown Choral Society celebrated its 25-year reunion with a potluck dinner last Sunday. To mark the happy occasion, the Society's 25-year members got together for a group photo. Front row, from left: Doris Lindsay, Wilma Groskorth, Vi Haines and Lynn Purdy. Back row: Jean Hancock, Joan Beeny and Joanne Mackie. (Eve Martin photo)

Motors, mosquitos and memories

We have just returned from our annual two-week family vacation in "the wilderness." For the past several years we have rented a cottage from our old friends, the Robinsons, at Lake Weslemkoon. Weslemkoon is a Cree Indian word meaning "place where mosquitoes are as big as 747s."

Weslemkoon is pristine and picturesque. There are few cottages and no roads. People, supplies and such go by boat.

The lake itself is clean, and you can drink the lake water (so they say). There are many, many places where you can pull your boat ashore, enjoy the scenery and there are no other people in sight.

Our family vacations have always been the cause of many jokes in our house (most of them aimed at me). I thought I would give you a few examples of situations which bring these caustic comments from my kids. Maybe things aren't so different at your place.

Our kids always make a big deal about what time we leave. I always aim to get away around 10 or 11 am. I'm on holidays, right? So why kill myself the first day?

This year, we were late again. By the time we packed the van and boat with food, clothes, bedding, brown pop and the other necessities of life, it was past noon.

Then, there's the last-minute stops at Canadian Tire, IGA and the library.

Finally we got on our way around 2 pm to a chorus of "Late again, Dad!" from the kids.

We blew a trailer tire just north of Madoc. I had a spare but the shoulder was narrow and the ditch was more like a gorge. I unhitched the boat and moved the van behind it with the four-ways on.

Why unhitch the boat? So I can get the #\$\$%& jack out of the #\$\$%& van to jack up the #\$\$%& boat, which has the seven tons of food in it that the bride considers survival rations.

The cars were whizzing by my head. It was the roadside tire, of course. I'm sure the other drivers

The Way I See It

With Mike O'Leary



were trying to pick off my hat with their passenger-side mirrors. Have you ever noticed how smug passing drivers look as they fly by you while you're wrestling with a tire? Bunch'a jerks!

We arrived at the cottage around 7 pm. The Robinsons observed (again) that some guests choose to arrive during the day. I smiled, muttered a few unprintable words and we proceeded to disembark - I mean unload.

The cottage is as close to "roughing it" as the bride would consider. There are two bedrooms, a living room, kitchen, dining area and, my favourite, a huge screened porch. It's more than 30 miles from a major mall so the bride breaks out in hives just north of Madoc. It's not that bad, though - she usually stops crying after a day or so.

The kids call my boat "the Titanic" and I'm getting really defensive about it. Big expensive boats have a bilge with water in it, right? I say my boat doesn't leak and doesn't need bailing. It just has a manual bilge, sort of like the expensive ones. My motor, a Scott-Atwater, is not unreliable. What's so odd about taking some wrenches, screwdrivers, a socket set, spare fuel pump and a hammer with you? You never know when someone might need a hand.

Speaking of boats, what is it with boaters? Everyone you pass waves at you. What are they, repressed Nazis? They're nicer than the old guy at the door of Wal-Mart. Not too clever though. They see me in a 16-foot, five-passenger runabout with a 200-pound motor on the back paddling for shore. What do they say? "Need a hand?" You feel like saying, "No stupid, I'm trying to get

into the same shape as a 60-year-old Swede."

There must be some kind of primeval hunter-gatherer instinct that makes us go out fishing. This lake is renowned as a great lake for bass fishing. I can't catch the damned things. The worst part is coming back empty-handed. "How'd ya do?" everyone shouts.

"Had a few strikes," I yell back. Hell, I had more strikes in two weeks on that lake than the Blue Jays do in a season.

I've finally figured out a strategy for next year. If anyone knows where you can buy war surplus hand-grenades, I'd appreciate a call. I'll fix those stinking fish!!

The Robinsons are gracious and helpful (should you have motor problems) hosts. Family camping and cottages are available. Space is limited and loud parties are discouraged with a fire hose. Reservations are necessary. You can reach the Robinsons at 613-474-5201.

Every year holidays generate great memories. When the kids were small, I remember the times we spent in the water and the campfires and camp songs. I don't think I'm the only dad who knows the words to "Going on a Lion Hunt" or "Granny was a Girl Guide."

These last two weeks I was privileged to spend a lot of time with the kid. It was interesting to discuss her views on the future, her plans and dreams. I don't recall being as focused when I was her age. I hope her memories of these weeks are as special as mine. Damn, they grow up so fast, don't they?

Listen, let's keep the few problems I had to ourselves, shall we? You see, every week I meet my friend Al (the barber) and Al (L.C.B.O. manager) for a beer. Their first question will be, "How were your holidays?"

I'll smile, lean back and say, "They were great. The weather was outstanding, the boat worked like a charm and the fishing was incredible." It's a guy thing - you understand!

HEY!

What's your beef?



"There is no consumer protection when it comes to car insurance. If the average consumer was aware of their rights, insurance companies would not have the monopoly that they currently have."

Connie Prong, Delrex Boulevard



"The beer store should be a walk-in, serve yourself. They should fix the parking problem, too."

Jack Woudstra, River Drive



"The people who speed down Mountainview Road South. If they would just realize that children and seniors and school crossings should be respected for life and limb."

Mayva McFadden, Mountainview Road



"People who park in handicapped spots who do not need to, but are just too lazy to walk the extra couple of feet to another parking spot."

Jasin Penney, Delrex Boulevard