

GRAPEVINE



Cancer golf tourney

Over the past 27 years, an Acton golf tournament – now known as the Paul Murr Memorial Golf Tournament – has raised over \$825,000 for the Acton Branch of the Canadian Cancer for research and patient services. As well, beginning last year, tourney organizers started donating some of the proceeds to Cancer Assistance Services of Hilton Hills – CASHh.

At last week's Council meeting, Acton Councillor and tournament committee member Jon Hurst said there are still some early morning (7 a.m.) tee times available for Monday's event at Blue Springs.

Town survey

Want to have your say about what the future Halton Hills will look like? The Town is conducting a five-minute survey to ask people about their hopes and dreams for the next 25 to 50 years as it works on a Community Sustainability Strategy – a blueprint for the future. The survey is at www.surveymonkey.com/s/imaginehaltonhills

All about aprons

On Saturday, Trinity United Church presents "Wearing Your Mother's Apron," a fashion show of aprons from the past to present day. Tickets include dessert and coffee, as well as door prizes and are available at church office, 519-853-2090 or at the door.

Parent education night

If the prospect of raising your kids without raising your voice is appealing, check out a parent education night on May 10 at McKenzie-Smith Bennett School.

Co-hosted with the parent council at Robert Little School, the event features counsellor Sarah Chana Radcliffe, author of *Raising Your Children Without Raising Your Voice*. The free session begins at 6:30 p.m., and free childcare will be provided. Register by e-mailing rlschool-council@hotmail.com or by visiting the Robert Little School Facebook page.

Guitars for Mothers

Songs from the Classic American Songbook will be featured on Mother's Day, May 8 at the Halton Region Museum in Milton in a performance called Three Guitars. The Jazz at the Museum series is staged in the Hearth Room as part of the Museum Foundation's fundraising efforts. For details, dial 311, or 905-875-2200, ext. 22.

Seniors' bazaar

There will be crafts, a bake table, books, jewellery, games and gently used items from Granny's Attics at the annual spring bazaar at the Acton Seniors Centre on Saturday. There will also be plants and outdoor items from the Country Store, plus a delicious tea. The sale runs from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Ballinafad sale

The annual garage, bake and plant sale at Ballinafad United Church on Saturday will also offer a breakfast and lunch barbecue. The event runs from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Truck pull

Teams of local teens will attempt to pull a fire truck the farthest during a truck pull on Willow Street on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The event is a fundraiser for the Acton and Georgetown youth centres, and will also feature food, music and prizes. For information call Amanda at 519-853-9825 or akostjuk@links2care.ca or www.theyouthcentres.com

Java habits

The closure of the Acton McDonald's for a major renovation has huge crowds – on foot and drive through – jostling for java at Tim Hortons, where there are regular lineups out the door, and waiting cars spilling onto the road.

The McDonald's reno began Sunday and could take a week-and-a-half to give the franchise the latest look, a new drink dispensing system and kitchen upgrades. Some Acton staff is working at the two Georgetown McDonald's owned by Acton franchise Tim O'Connor.



SWEET MOLLY'S MOOSE: This life size moose is now greeting visitors to Sweet Molly's Scottish, Irish and British gift shop at the corner of Mill and Frederick Streets. – Submitted photo

Lessons lovingly learned

It feels odd to being a mother for Mother's Day, not just a daughter wanting to acknowledge my mother and my appreciation for her. This Sunday will be my second Mother's Day as "momma" as Little J calls me. I'm still not used to hearing it, and sometimes I feel like looking around when I say "my daughter" to see if someone behind is saying it instead of me.

I officially became "mom" last year, almost a week to the day before Mother's Day when Little J, not yet six months, blurted out the word "mom" perfectly clear. At first I thought I was just hearing what I wanted to hear... in other words...I won! She said mom before she said dad. However, within a day or so, I had witnesses, and soon mom turned into "momma." I know I was a mom on the day she was born, however, hearing her say it was the icing on the Mother's Day cake.

A year and a half ago, I didn't know much about being a mom, but you sure learn quickly. First, all those people that said sleep when baby sleeps have no idea



By **Angela Tyler**

what they are talking about. When Little J sleeps is when I get stuff done. It's amazing how many things you can accomplish in a one-hour baby nap. I can sleep when she goes to bed for the night. When she naps, it's time to get my behind in gear.

I've learned I have way more patience than I ever thought. I still can't believe I can sit through a 45 minute session while she eats one pea at a time off her high chair tray. I've learned that although I am not (emphasis on not) a morning person, the best part of the day is someone waking you up with a smile saying "Momma...HAPPY!" Although this momma would be happier if it didn't occur before 6 a.m., it still feels amazing. I've also learned very early, if you think a diaper needs changing, do NOT under any circumstance stick your finger in to double check.

If in doubt, just change it. They only cost about 25 cents. It took this momma two times, sticking her finger into a supposedly dry diaper that wasn't, to learn that one.

However, of all the stuff Little J and I have both learned over the last year and a half, one is most important. What I've learned is I have a pretty damn cool momma myself and Little J has a pretty damn cool Grandma.

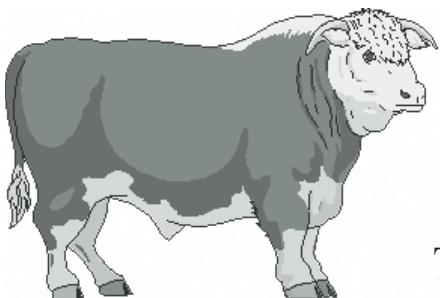
I've always been close to both my parents, but over the past year, I really have come to see my mom on a different level. Now my mom is someone I can really talk with as a daughter and as a mother. I can ask her for help or advice or we can just hang out. She is my mom and she is my friend and she is an amazing Grandma.

There's only thing better than greeting the day with "Momma...HAPPY!" is seeing my mom with my daughter, and how much they love each other. Yeah, this mom thing is pretty cool.

Happy Mother's Day to my Mom and to all mothers. Enjoy your day – you deserve it.

What's Your Beef?

Put it in a letter to the Editor!



It's better than just chewing your cud!

Deadline is Tuesday at noon.