

# GRAPEVINE



## Litter busters

Want to make Acton a cleaner place to live? Join in the 22-Minute Makeover next Friday (April 20) and/or the Community Cleanup on Saturday, April 21 to help clear a winter's worth of garbage from private and public property.

On April 21, Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette and Acton Councillor Jon Hurst will lead the cleanup on Main Street – volunteers are to meet at the Main Street parkette at 9 a.m. If you'd rather clean-up Prospect Park, meet Acton Councillor Mike O'Leary at the Dufferin Centre at 9 a.m.

Garbage bags and gloves will be provided. Call 905-873-2601, ext. 2603 for details, or to register an alternate cleanup site.

## Pothole purgatory?

The search is on for the worst road in Ontario – the Ontario CAA wants drivers to nominate their traffic nightmares, from gridlock, to potholes, road signs, traffic lights or pedestrian/cycling safety, the ninth annual Worst Roads campaign will shame the worst and underscore the importance of infrastructure maintenance.

Cast a ballot for the worst road in Ontario at [www.worstroads.ca](http://www.worstroads.ca) until April 24. Can't pick just one worst road? You can nominate as many different roads as you like, but you can't vote for the same road twice.

## Doors Open

The doors of the Acton Town Hall Centre will proudly be thrown open this fall as part of the 2012 Doors Open Ontario project, which opens heritage buildings, cultural sites and other interesting venues to the public, free of charge.

Halton Hills is one of five new communities joining the project this summer – doors will be open in Georgetown on September 29 and in Acton on September 30, from noon to 4 p.m.

This year's theme is "Defending a Nation" to commemorate the bicentennial of the War of 1812. Across the province, doors of war-related sites will be open, including battle fields, military fortifications, armouries, Legion halls,

peace gardens and commemorative monuments.

Ward Two Councillor Moya Johnson, chair of Heritage Halton Hills, said they had 40 to 50 area locations to choose from, and in Acton, the sites also include St. Alban the Martyr Church, Moorecroft House and MacKinnon Funeral Home. "At each location someone will explain the heritage," Johnson said on Monday.

## Jousting TV debut

A new TV show featuring former Acton resident Shane Adams debuted last Wednesday on the History Television. The show – *Full Metal Jousting* – features the extreme sport from the Middle Ages that pits man and horse against man and horse.

Adams, 41, is a full-contact jousting coach, host and executive producer of the show which premiered last week. Adams, who holds 17 international jousting championships, grew up on an Acton area farm and started his theatrical career at Toronto's Medieval Times dinner theatre.

Adams started his own Knights of Valor show and performed as a knight in shining armour at local festivals and shows, including the Leathertown Festival, and also across Canada.

## Hume at Speakers Series

Is it Worth the Drive to Acton? Find out how Christopher Hume, the Toronto Star's Urban Issues, Architecture columnist will answer that question when he appears at the Acton Town Hall as a guest in the Absolutely Acton Speakers Series on April 29 at 2 p.m. Tickets are available at the door.

## Memory Lane music

Expect a slice of 1950s and 60s music hits when *Little Caesar and the Consuls* take the stage at the Acton Town Hall Centre for a night of rock and roll on May 5.

Tickets are available at Acton's Home Hardware and Halton Hills Furniture, with proceeds earmarked for an expansion of the Town Hall Centre, including an elevator to make the heritage building fully accessible.



**EASTER BRASS:** Led by Acton Citizen Band Bandmaster George Elliott (left) members of Easter Brass greeted the dawn on Easter Sunday for a sunrise service at Churchill Community Church – Ted Tyler photo

# Titanic cruiser dry-docked

One hundred years ago this weekend the Titanic sunk to the bottom of the Atlantic Ocean. It is a story that has been told over and over again. It mystifies people. It makes people become super sleuths trying to figure out 'what really happened.. I suppose in another one hundred years it will still captivate us.

I think I am like most people and have slight fascination with the whole story. I've bought the odd book over the years about the historical event. I've seen the Titanic exhibit that toured the world. For something so tragic, it does mesmerize people. However, as much as I was interested in the tale, the Dude is one of those people that the fascination of the ship goes beyond everyday interest.

I suppose I first noticed this when a pattern started to appear everytime the James Cameron Titanic movie was on television. This is where we differ in a large way. I will watch a movie once. Sometimes I will watch it a second time. He will watch a movie several times, and as for the Titanic movie, it has actually got to the point where he can watch part of it from any part in the movie and know almost every line in



By  
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it.

About a year ago while "surfing the net" he discovered there was a 100th anniversary cruise scheduled to commemorate the Titanic's maiden voyage. It was to follow the exact route on the exact days, at the same speed while staff donned period costumes and guests even ate what passengers on the ill-fated ship dined on. Immediately this fuelled his Titanic interest. His Titanomania became focused on this cruise. "What do you think...should we go on it?" he asked me. "Are you crazy?" I questioned him.

When he asked why, I listed my reasons starting with the large price tag to the two main reasons I refused to go on that cruise. My first big reason was I had never heard of the cruise line...ever. Next, the cruise didn't work out too well the first time, so why on earth would you mess with karma a second time, especially with a cruise line neither one of us had heard of.

For the next year, on a regular basis, he would

look at the cruise website. The prices were dropping. For him he saw that as a great sign. For me, it was a sign that there was a reason the seats weren't selling... again, karma. Even though I thought he was crazy, I knew he didn't want to be one of those things that one "regrets not doing." Everyone has one. His father is still kicking himself that he never flew on the Concord, s he had always wanted to do.

With the clock ticking to cruise departure, he emailed the cruise company. I knew there was a good chance he was going to go until he called to say that he had waited too long and the bookings were closed off. Perhaps it will be his regret, however, I see it as a sign it wasn't meant to happen.

On Monday, I took the Dude to the movies to see *Titanic 3D*. It wasn't the cruise, but we did have a nice time watching it after he promised me he wouldn't recite any of the actor's lines.

In the newspapers the last few days, they have been covering this cruise, which surprised me. On Tuesday I read how the ship already had a problem and had to return to Ireland for a medical emergency. Uh ohhhhh....