

GRAPEVINE

SMALL TOWN BIG HELP

Many stores and businesses in Acton are accepting donations to assist in the relief efforts for the thousands affected by the fires in Fort McMurray.

Sobeys is accepting cash donations with 100 per cent of the funds raised assisting the Canadian Red Cross, and they will also match all cash donations to a maximum of \$100,000.

No Frills is accepting cash donations that will be given directly to Red Cross, and they have also committed \$300,000 to the fire relief efforts in Fort McMurray, including cash donations, food, water, and essential health supplies.

Tyler Transport is accepting employee donations until Friday and they are matching – donating to the Salvation Army Emergency Disaster fund for Fort McMurray. They will also be donating one cent for every km their fleet travels this week, which should amount to tens of thousands of kms.

Local food truck Fries on the Fly, located on Highway 25 South, donated 10 per cent of all their sales last weekend to the people of Fort McMurray.

If you know of any other businesses or residents that are pulling together and raising funds for those in need in Alberta, we would like to hear from you.

SUMMER CAMP FOR ALL

Now is the time to register your children in the Summer Camp Programs offered by the Town of Halton Hills. The Recreation and parks department has many camp programs with exciting new adventures, imagination exploration and fun. All families should be able to choose Town of Halton Hills Recreation & Parks camps as a viable child care option that keeps them busy and having fun over the summer. There are a number of financial and supportive services in place to help you do so, no matter your family's situation. For more information, check out the Community Support Page of their Activity & Service Guide.

MUSIC FESTIVAL WINNERS

Congratulations to the students of Jennifer Culpeper Piano Studio in Acton on their success at this year's Milton Music Festival. They entered categories Preparatory through Level 9, there was a lot of stiff competition at every level and from all over the GTA. Everyone gave wonderful performances, all earned first class honours and this great team of piano players even took home three Silver and

two Bronze medals. Congratulations to Michael Chang, Mary Jane MacDonald, Janet Chang and Ave Valvasori.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Many volunteer worker bees were out in full force over the weekend preparing the Community Garden for planting. Loads of manure were brought in and the beds were tilled and prepared for the upcoming planting weekend. The first of two composters are also up and ready for organic waste to be disposed in.

NEW LIGHTS ON RURAL ROADS

The Town of Halton Hills has installed new lights on three rural intersections to improve visibility and enhance safety. The new LED lights have been installed at 25 Side Road/Dublin Line, 17 Side Road/Sixth Line and 10 Side Road/Fourth Line.

The new light installations are part of the Town's Rural Road Safety initiative. In 2017, another light will be added to the intersection of 22 Side Road and Dublin Line. Additional intersections will be identified for 2017 installations in the near future.

RATIFIED AGREEMENT

At the Regular Board Meeting held on May 3, the Halton Catholic District School Board announced a ratified Memorandum of Settlement with OECTA Occasional Teachers. The agreement is effective September 1, 2014 to August 31 2017. Members of the OECTA Occasional Teachers held their ratification meeting on April 26 and voted in support of the Memorandum of Settlement.

LIAISON COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS WANTED

The Town of Halton Hills is seeking volunteers who are interested in serving on the Liaison Committee for the Town of Halton Hills' Agricultural and Natural Heritage Systems Review. For more information on the roles of the Project Liaison Committee please contact Tara Buonpensiero at tarab@haltonhills.ca

The deadline to apply to volunteer on the committee is 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 20. Applicants must complete the application form at www.haltonhills.ca/committee/pdf/volunteers-application.pdf and submit the form to Renee Brown by email at reneeb@haltonhills.ca or by mail at 1 Halton Hills Drive, Halton Hills ON L7G 5G2. For more information please contact Tara Buonpensiero at tarab@haltonhills.ca



SUN SPOT: The elusive Mercury, one of the most difficult planets to view was out in broad daylight on Monday, and Acton resident Bruce Luoma, a member of the North Halton Hills Astronomy Club, had his telescope set up in his front yard equipped with a solar filter to view Mercury transit across the surface of the sun. – Marie Shadbolt photo

LETTERS



Residents fed up with construction site mess

To the Editor;

It amazes me, but it does not surprise me, that citizens are not considered, and Municipal procedures were possibly bypassed when, verbal permission was given to Halton Hills Hydro (HHH) to set up a construction site in a lot zoned for residential use only, right between two homes.

This lot was an easement that was allocated many years ago to access future homes in an area now designated to protect the environment, but is now up for sale.

Meg Gonzales at HHH informed me that their contractor was given verbal permission to use this vacant lot for material storage only by Dick Spear at the Town of Halton Hills. No consideration for the neighbours on either side of this lot or other neighbours nearby.

I called last year to have this site cleaned up as the work was halted for the winter months but Meg Gonzales neglected to return my calls and address this issue.

This project by HHH, to put hydro lines underground, was

started in May 2014 and since then this lot has been an eyesore and noisy due to the front end loaders/excavators going back and forth to work blocks away. The work in our area was done a year ago but we have to listen to the big machinery going back and forth still. Dick Spear said he allowed this site to be used as this construction company was replacing the light poles for the town as well. This is an unsightly, dusty, noisy, intrusive site, and it is not just storage for materials. There are two front end loaders/excavators that start up every morning at 7 a.m. and go back and forth to this site all day long, a portable toilet, unsightly materials and repairs to equipment among other activities. I have contacted the claims department at the Town of Halton Hills and was advised to put a claim in for this intrusion on our lives and the enjoyment of our properties and any other monetary losses due to this horrendous construction site.

Since I complained officially last Friday, they have put a proper fencing in front of the site. The worst part is the noisy

machinery going back and forth from this site to work in areas far from us. Even though they took a break in the winter months we still had to look at the unsightly mess. I haven't used my patio or had a barbeque in two years due to this noise and dust.

If you have concerns, complaints, or want to issue a claim for damages (lack of enjoyment to your property and noise, and/or actual monetary losses due to this project and site) contact Linda Cook at the Town of Halton Hills. Email linda.cook@haltonhills.ca 905-873-2601 ex 2232/ 905-873-2347 (fax) and include all the following:

- Your full name
- Your contact phone number
- Your contact email
- The date and time of occurrence
- The location
- Detailed description of what happened
- The property damage
- You may include any additional information you think will be helpful to the investigation

Ruth Queen,
Acton

Thank you Global Pet Foods Acton

To the Editor;

Wow, once again I have to say thank you to Jen and all the wonderful staff and customers at Global Pet Foods Acton. You raised over \$1300 for Grand River all Breed Rescue in the February Take Heart Campaign.

For a small town you have a big heart, that's a wonderful amount. It is well timed as the OSPCA rescued several hounds from a bad situation and asked for our help. We took in three and they all needed vetting. I am fostering one and I have to say

he is the sweetest gentlest guy. Thank you once again Acton, each year I think we have reached a wonderful amount and the next year you surpass it.

Shirley Thaiss
GRAB Volunteer
and Foster Mom