

# GRAPEVINE

## ALMOST TIME

The Halton District School Board is preparing for the start of the 2016/17 school year, which begins on Wednesday, September 7. This year, Tuesday, September 6 is designated a P.A. Day for school staff.

## AAA CREDIT RATING

S&P Global Ratings has reaffirmed Halton Region's AAA credit rating, making it at the top end of Canadian Municipalities and provinces, praising Halton's strong financial practices and budgetary performance.

## WATER AND FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Region of Halton is still under a Level 1 Careful Use water restriction – a voluntary restriction using outside water on odd/even days.

The Town of Halton Hills' fire ban is still in full effect. No outside burning other than a contained BBQ.

Guelph/Eramosa Township is issuing a Level 2 water restriction – washing of vehicles in driveways is not permitted, lawn watering can only be done on alternating days (even number addresses on even days) and only between the hours of 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., and hand watering devices must be used for watering flower and vegetable gardens, trees and shrubs. They have partially lifted the fire ban in Guelph/Eramosa, allowing small cooking fires and recreational fires, provided that they are constantly supervised, sufficient extinguishing equipment is immediately available, and the fires comply with the regulations for cooking fires and/or recreational fires under By-law 11/2009.

The Town of Erin (Grand River Conservation Authority) also has water restrictions in place, and is requesting all municipal water users to stop non-essential water use. But, they have lifted their fire ban.

## GEESE IN THE NEWS

Georgina Beerman and her famous 'Rockwood Geese' were showcased on CITY TV News Tuesday night. They featured Georgina and her much loved geese that are regularly set-up into fun-loving displays that usually coincide with events happening in the real world. This week they will be competing in their own version of the Olympic Summer Games.

## EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

If you need help with your job search, the Halton Hills Public Library offers help. Whether

you are looking for employment, training or exploring career options, they can help. Our up-to-date collection of print and online resources can help you create new resumes, prepare for interviews or explore new options. They also work closely with other community groups to support employment needs. To book your appointment for Tuesday, August 30 between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. please call 905-693-8458 ext 101.

## MOVIE IN THE PARK

Bring the family for a night of fun at Rockwood's Rockmosa Park on August 27 for a free Movie in the Park. The featured movie will be 'Zootopia' The fun begins at 7:30 with a bouncy castle. Face painting and cotton candy, and the movie will begin at 8:30 p.m. The evening is free with donations to the Food Bank. Please register for this event so snacks can be provided for everyone. You can register by visiting [tammysells-rockwood.com](http://tammysells-rockwood.com).

## VOTE FOR FOOD FOR LIFE

Food for Life has been entered into the CIT Group's Foodortunity contest with a chance to win a donation of \$10,000 for receiving the most online votes.

Food for Life we collects surplus perishable food from grocery stores, retail and wholesale food suppliers. Daily food deliveries go to 100 community programs in low-income neighbourhoods in Oakville, Burlington, Milton, Acton and Georgetown.

Visit [www.cit.com/foodortunity/](http://www.cit.com/foodortunity/) to vote an unlimited amount of times every day between now and September 2.

## FUGITIVE OF THE WEEK

In this edition of the Fugitive of the week the Oakville Offender Management Unit is searching for Philip Bogdanski, 30 years old of Brampton. After being caught in the act of theft, he was arrested and charged and since failed to attend his court dates. A warrant has been issued for his arrest.

Bogdanski is described as 5'10", 170lbs with brown hair and brown eyes. He is known to frequent Oakville, Mississauga, Brampton and areas.

Anyone who may have witnessed this person or has information that would assist investigators in locating him are encouraged to contact D/C Woollands – Offenders Management Unit at 905-825-4747 ext 2208 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 or by visiting [www.crimestoppers.com](http://www.crimestoppers.com)



MARKET TREATS: A wide selection of breads were just one of the treats to be found last Thursday at the Acton Farmers' Market. - Ted Tyler photo

# LETTERS

The views expressed in these published letters are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The New Tanner Publishing Ltd.



## Festival feedback

To the Editor:

I have just returned home after attending the Acton Leathertown Festival with my Lions Foundation of Canada Future Dog Guide puppy Zach. Festivals such as these are excellent training opportunities in which I can work with the puppy on ignoring the many distractions of food, people, noise and other dogs, a skill he will need as a working ser-

vice animal. I would like to thank all of the vendors and most attendees for recognizing that Zach was working and therefore needed to be ignored. It was great to hear parents educating their children about why working dogs shouldn't be touched.

It was also wonderful to have so many vendors providing free water bottles to keep the people and dogs hydrated

on a hot summer day. My only concern was that there was not a single recycling bin at the event. I chose to carry my empty bottles with me and recycle them at home, but judging by the number of trash cans I saw heaping full of plastic bottles, I think I was in a minority. I hope that the organizers will rectify this oversight next year.

Linda Kittmer  
Rockwood, ON

# JUST A THOUGHT

## The Darwin Awards' favourite playground

Roads have become more than paths from point to point. Today, they appear as the stage upon which drivers attempt to prove their incompetence, or more, their stupidity. In case you didn't get the memo: driving is now some kind of horrid reality show, and the most asinine performance wins extra points.

In Ontario, there are more than a million kilometers on which this debacle may unfold, and no place is void of participants. Henry Ford was determined to create a "simple, reliable and affordable car for the average working [North] American" and achieved this in 1908 with the Model T. Ten thousand were sold the first year. Last year, 1.9 million new cars were sold in Canada—a record. Combined, there are 33 million licensed vehicles sharing Canada's roads, 11.7 million in Ontario alone. With the influx of vehicles, it appears some people are unaware of the features available. The turning signal for instance, is a unique tool conveniently located and easy to use, that allows the multitude of cars around you to forego last minute evasive driving by providing an insight into your planned lane or direction



By  
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change. For the record, driving doesn't involve mind reading; advanced notice is required. Physics teachers everywhere shutter to think that so many could forget the lesson about things in motion staying in motion. Or, that with greater speed or mass, objects require greater distances to stop. Ringing any bells? No. Extra points might be in your future.

Another handy little invention is the stop sign. Contrary to urban legend, you *are* required to stop at all of them, even when no one is watching. Despite your belief that you are special, the rules are actually the same for all of us, and yes, you do actually have to follow them. Right of way is not based on your rush, folks, so try to wait your turn.

Many rules are there to protect people, most often it seems, because they are not smart enough to protect themselves. Here, we present 'Exhibit D': the distracted driver. Applying makeup,

reading the paper, checking their email and now playing video games—people, you are operating a motor vehicle, capable of killing people, which it does more often than the guns the masses love to hate. Between 2009 and 2013, 6,593 people died by gun in Canada, (sadly 5,616 by suicide) while 10,476 people were killed in car accidents. And ironically, 50 per cent of all those hurt or killed were the driver. If self-preservation isn't a good enough reason to focus on the road, then you may be our next grand prize-winner.

For those unfamiliar, the Darwin Awards are a tongue-in-cheek showcase of people's bad decisions leading to their ultimate demise; an ongoing saga in human nature demonstrating that as a species we might not be so intelligent after all. Many might argue reality television already showcases this; however, while not all drivers are bad, and many good drivers can and do make mistakes, it seems that more and more our roads demonstrate humanity's quest for extinction. After all, the ability to escape comeuppance while testing fate should not equate to value. And wouldn't you rather be unknown in this contest?