

GRAPEVINE

BUSINESSES MERGE

Two downtown Acton businesses will merge this weekend, with one, the Vintage Shoppe, moving from the corner of Main and Mill to the Country Reflections store.

Karen Adcock, who operated Vintage Shoppe for just three months, purchased the Country Reflections business, and will officially re-open the merged store on April 1.

Until then, Adcock will keep the former Country Reflections store open on weekends. "I didn't want to see Country Reflections close, and I liked the store...I'll own both shops," she said, adding her landlord owns both her current and new locations.

Adcock said the new store will offer the best of both stores, featuring more men's items, and will be called Country Reflections/Vintage Shoppe. Adcock hopes the sale of the business is wrapped up this week.

ARTCAST STATUE

The Halton Hills connections continue with memorials to Jeffrey Baldwin, a five-year-old Toronto boy who died of neglect in 2002 while in care of his grandparents.

Acton's Amanda Reed was the driving force behind a memorial tree planted in a Toronto Park in Jeffrey's name. Reed also worked to have the Catholic Children's Aid Society of Toronto accountable for its failures in the case.

Now, Artcast Inc. of Georgetown has been commissioned to make a statue of Jeffrey in his Superman costume, which will be placed in the same park with the tree. An Ottawa businessman has raised \$25,000 for the life-size bronze memorial.

UNDER THE WIRE

Thanks to the power of social media, Acton's Lori Price is \$800 richer. Price's name was called as part of Toronto radio station, Boom 97.3's call-in-and-win contest.

When another Acton woman heard the call-out, she went looking for Price via a Mom to Mom Buy N sell Facebook website.

The news spread quickly, and with three minutes to spare, Price found out she was a potential winner and called in to claim her cash.

WORD ON FIRE

What Catholics believe, and why they believe, will be explored using architecture, literature, beliefs and practices of Catholic faith at a five-part series offered in Acton by the Catholic Parent Involvement Committee of the Halton Catholic District School Board.

Partnering with St. Joseph Patron of Canada, St. Joseph School, the Catholic Women's League, and Acton Knights of Columbus, the series, called the *Catholicism*

Project, will be offered Wednesday evenings beginning March 19, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at St. Joseph School.

Teens and adults are invited to watch the *Word on Fire* series, and there will be two programs for younger kids. Registration deadline is March 17. For details call Eddie at 519-853-0623 or email memacdonald@cogeco.ca

SPECIAL SERVICE

A lucky Acton resident will have a special delivery person bring them lunch next Tuesday when Links2Care celebrates its March for Meals campaign featuring Community Champions who will help make deliveries.

Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette will accompany a Meals on Wheels volunteer delivering a delicious, convenient, affordable lunch to one of the dozen Acton clients.

Last year, 105 Links2Care volunteers donated 2,773-hours of time to deliver 14,344 meals to 385 clients.

STAR GAZING

Want to check out the universe with the help of a high-powered telescope with help getting pointed in the right direction? The Town is offering a free, family star gazing event to help celebrate Earth Hour on March 29, at St. Joseph Catholic School.

An indoor presentation on the night sky will be followed by an outdoor look at the stars. Pre-registration is required for the popular event. Call Jennifer at 905-873-2601 ext. 2290.

PHOTOART SHOW

The work of local amateur and professional photographers is on display at the Cultural Centre's Sisnet Lobby until April 6 for the 35th annual Halton Hills Camera Club's *PhotoArt Show*.

On March 22, outdoor/nature photographer Ethan Meleg will discuss his work in the Centre's John Elliott Theatre. For details call 905-877-3700.

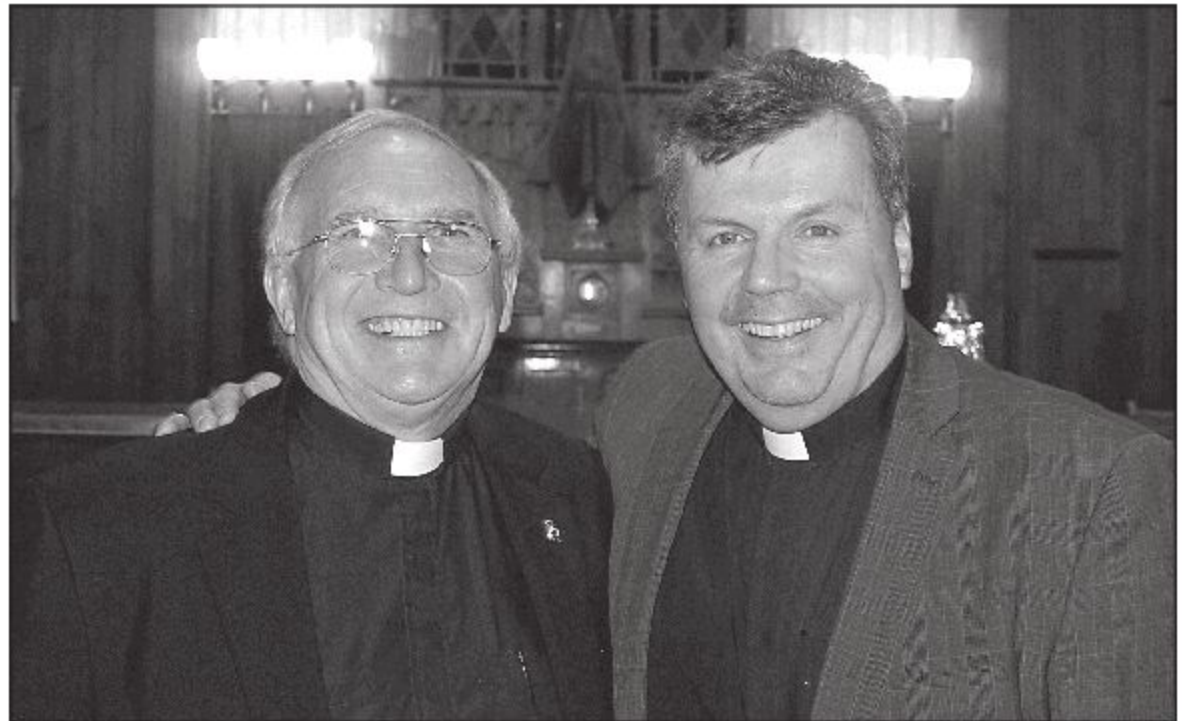
DANCE DIVA

From delicate beauty to a fierceness bordering on carnal, *Fin De Fiesta* will bring a sampling of flamenco to the Acton Town Hall Centre on April 3.

Professional flamenco dancer/freelance journalist Lia Grainger - a 6'1" former basketball player - is part of a four-person flamenco performance troupe touring Ontario in March and April.

Grainger, who describes herself as an "obsessive aficionado" of flamenco, said their troupe incorporates the traditional and contemporary to create an "electrifying portrait of an art form that shatters traditional stereotypes of beauty."

For ticket information call 416-577-5912.



THIRD TIME BLESSED: Twice postponed because of bad weather, The Reverend Brian Galligan (left) finally was able to welcome guest preacher, Father Mark Curtis to St. Alban's Church on Sunday night. Father Curtis' message "A Change in Faith, from Fan to Follower" was delivered to an appreciative crowd through music and words. - Ann Adema photo

Our MPP Reports by Ted Arnott

MPP Wellington - Halton Hills



In just a few short weeks, there is a strong possibility that Ontario may be in the throes of a provincial general election. It is a plausible scenario. Here's how it might unfold:

Sometime later this month, Kathleen Wynne's Minister of Finance, Charles Sousa, would announce the date when he plans to present his 2014-15 budget speech. He would likely say he plans to present his budget to the Legislature sometime in April. After the budget is tabled, a debate on the budget motion would then be initiated, and a vote on the motion would follow a few days later.

If this budget motion were to be defeated, it would signal decisively that the Liberal Government had lost the confidence of the House. Tradition would

then compel the Premier to ask the Lieutenant Governor to dissolve the Provincial Parliament, and a general election campaign would be on. Ontarians might vote for a new Government in late May or even early June.

However, another plausible scenario might transpire, whereby the Government survives for now, and no election would take place this spring.

Here's how this alternative scenario might transpire:

The Premier, seeking to avoid an election she fears she would lose, would again enter into public and private negotiations with the NDP Leader. The NDP would offer a wish list of ideas they would want included in the budget. The Liberals might choose to embrace those NDP proposals, and commit to including them in the budget.

The new spending the NDP requested under this scenario would be paid for with borrowed money. The NDP, having had their requests granted by the Liberals, would promise to allow the budget motion to pass, either by voting for it or abstaining on it. The vote on the budget motion would take place sometime in April or May, and if it were to pass with NDP support, the election would be put on hold.

There are other possible scenarios that might unfold in the coming weeks, and any number of things could happen. No one has a crystal ball, and only time will tell.

In spite of all this, one thing is certain: our Ontario PC Caucus has consistently opposed the Liberal Government budget mo-

tions, going back over the past ten years.

We have voted against the Liberal budget motions because we do not have confidence in the current Liberal Government. We have not supported their tax increases, out of control overall spending, excessive red tape, and their policy of doubling of the provincial debt. We have urged them to adopt our jobs plan, since they appear to have no effective jobs plan of their own.

It is our responsibility as an Opposition Party to hold the Government accountable, and prepare to form the next Government, if we are entrusted with the support of Ontario voters.

As an Opposition Party, it is not our responsibility to prop up a Government which we fundamentally do not support.

And there is one other certainty: a provincial election will come eventually, and Ontario voters will again be given a chance to choose a new direction for the province.

On March 3, I was glad to attend the 37th Annual Georgetown Hockey Heritage Awards Dinner, joining Mayor Rick Bonnette and Councillors Dave Kentner, Bryan Lewis and Bob Inglis.

As always, it was a fun celebration of our national obsession, the sport of hockey.

Congratulations to this year's award winner, Jack Moon, and thanks to all who organized the dinner and have contributed to Georgetown's "storied hockey history."

Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott welcomes your comments. He can be reached at 1-800-265-2366. His website address is www.tedarnottmpp.com

