

HILLSVIEW

Active Living Centre

Halton Hills • Acton

By Julie Conroy

Thirty-nine members and their guests enjoyed the Birthday Tea last Tuesday. There was cake and ice-cream followed by an entertaining hour of "Name that Tune". Doug Richardson played the piano and Sylvia Mitchell was the umpire making sure everyone got their points. The next Birthday Tea will be on November 11 when we celebrate all October and November birthdays.

Myra Sartor tells me that at Bingo last Saturday, 46 people witnessed Margaret Anderson on a winning streak. She won three regular games plus \$160 in the final Grand Slam game.

Tickets are now on sale for the Social Dinner on Monday, October 20. On the menu is Schnitzel, roast potatoes and for dessert, Black Forest cake. Norm Mason will provide

the music.

Have you thought about your costume for the Halloween dance on Thursday, October 30? Last year there were some terrific costumes and everyone had a great time. Tickets are available at reception.

Thinking of costumes, the calendar pictures were reviewed, and the best were chosen for the Centre's calendar which will be on sale at the Christmas Bazaar. We are getting lots of requests for them even before they go to the printers.

I understand the penny table will be set up by the time you read this column. Everyone enjoys putting tickets in the containers hoping to win one of the many prizes. Many people buy tickets every week and keep adding them to the containers hoping to double their chances on certain items. Marj McDonough

asked me to mention that she does not require any more prizes. The winning tickets will be drawn at our Christmas bazaar on Saturday, November 22.

If you enjoy the delicious fruit cakes we sell, we still have a few for sale. The bakery will not be making them in the future.

I missed Kathy Bolton's name from September 18 Bid Euchre. She had the only mooner. This week Kathy had another mooner as did Roberta Thompson, Catherine Hunt and Frances Hogenbirk. It's great to see the people playing Bridge again.

Thirty-five people travelled to Grand River Raceway, Elora on Monday evening. We enjoyed the buffet dinner and watching the horses. Some ventured down to the slots hoping to win a little money to bring home.

It was perfect weather for both the monthly trip to Rama last Wednesday, and the trip to Orillia the following day to see a show, followed by a cruise and barbecue steak dinner, while enjoying the view of the lake and beautiful fall colours. There is a trip to Rama the last Wednesday of every month.

The 50/50 has not been won for the past two weeks. The prize money next week should be around \$200. The amount of money in the box and the signatures on the list does not match. Some people are forgetting to drop their loonie in the box.

German student is Acton Au Pair

By Jane Dougan

After successfully completing advanced examinations at the end of high school, 18-year Lea Bitzen was poised to take on the world from her home town of Frankfurt, Germany. Lea chose to come to Acton on a working holiday as an *au pair* (french for "on equal terms") and become a participant in what has been called "the world's oldest cultural exchange program".

Typically, an *au pair* is a young person from a foreign country who stays with a host family for a limited time period (under one year) and takes on light housework and childcare duties. The International Au Pair Association (IAPA) explains that the main purpose is to learn about another culture, and to take that experience back home. While the concept of au pairing is more familiar in Europe, the IAPA was founded at a 1994 world conference in Vancouver. Lea came to Acton through the American Institute for Foreign Study (AIFS) which has recently included Canada as a travel option.

For a European student, Canada is a more exotic locale than Australia, New Zealand and the USA. Lea explains that "I didn't want to go to those countries to be like everyone else, I wanted to discover something new and more extraordinary". Lea's potential Canadian host family emailed and video conferenced with her to get acquainted before she set off on her adventure. She arrived in Canada just a few weeks ago, flying from Frankfurt to Vancouver with

seven other AIFS *au pairs*. After a two-day lay-over, the group split up to go to their various host families and Lea flew to Toronto.

Lea had "a perfect opportunity to see a little of the Canadian west coast", and enthuses that "Canada is perfect for me! Your country offers so much." She studied English and French intensively at school. "Besides the wonderful diversity of language, Canada offers an amazing culture, attitude and landscape. I have travelled a lot, to almost every country in Europe and to China, and Canada is topping everything as one of the most beautiful countries in the world."

She has quickly settled in with her host family, where she helps to look after two girls aged 7 and 9. She makes them breakfast each morning, helps them get dressed for school, prepares their lunch bags and homework and takes them to wait for the school bus. Then she has some spare time which she spends meeting other *au pairs* and exploring her new environment, as well as doing light housekeeping, shopping and preparing dinner. After school, "We get homework done and practice the piano. When the girls have no other activities like dance, soccer or piano, we have time to play together."

Lea would like to encourage other Canadian families and young people to look into an *au pair* program. "It's a big adventure, advantage, experience and cultural exchange for everybody. For you, the *au pair*, and especially for the kids!"



Kiera and Makayla Kapparis with Au Pair Lea Bitzen

Please join with the family as we celebrate the

80th BIRTHDAY
of
FRED GORDON
.....
OPEN HOUSE

Acton Legion
Sat. Oct. 19, 2014
from 1-4 pm

Best Wishes Only



Churchill Community Church
COMMUNITY CHICKEN BBQ
Saturday, October 4th, 2014

5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Serving Maple Lodge Farms barbeque chicken,
baked potato, coleslaw, roll and dessert

Quarter Chicken Dinner - \$12.00

Half Chicken Dinner - \$15.00

Dine in or Take-out

Tickets may be purchased at the door

CHURCHILL COMMUNITY CHURCH

14406 Third Line
Churchill Rd. North
at Halton/Erin Townline, Acton

For more information phone
Helen at 519-853-2339

Active Physiocare
10 EASTERN AVE. UNIT 103, ACTON, ON L7J 0A5

Active Physiocare

would like to welcome

Tyler Paterson,

Registered Massage Therapist

to our practice.

To book and appointment please call

519-853-1800

or email: activephysiocare@yahoo.ca

The Acton Salvation Army
Community Church

35th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

with a

~ Musical Program ~

on

Saturday October 4th 2014

7 p.m.

with **The Guelph Salvation Army Citadel Band**
& **Gospel Group - The Chapelaires**

PROGRAM \$10

(pay at the door)