

# GRAPEVINE

## CHAMBER CHANGES

The sudden departure last week of Acton's Sue Walker as president and CEO of the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce has the Chamber operating under the interim leadership of Acton's Kathleen Dills, a Board member.

Walker said she made a "quick" decision to leave after a "discussion with the Board," – she would not say what that discussion was about, but added it was "time for a change."

Interim leader Dills is the general manager, not President/ CEO following a Board decision to revert to the old job title last week after Walker's resignation. Dills said Walker served the Board well, but the Chamber is "ready to make some changes." She offered no specifics.

## LET THERE BE LIGHT

Thanks to the generosity of Acton Home Hardware owners Bill and Val Manes, there are solar-powered lights inside and outside of the new garden shed in Acton's Community Garden.

Garden booster, Acton Councillor Jon Hurst said the lights build on the Garden's sustainability, which includes collecting rain water to irrigate the planting beds – a rain-fed watering system designed by Hurst.

This week is the Garden's first major harvest – an exciting and tasty time according to co-ordinator Allison Jones, who noted they will stain the garden shed this weekend. Some of the food from the Garden will be enjoyed at the August 16 Acton Together community dinner at St. Alban's Anglican Church.

## 3 MUSKETEARS GOLF

Proceeds from the 11th annual 3 Musketeers Memorial Golf Tournament next month will help play for an outdoor skating rink in Acton – tangible good from the senseless deaths of three Acton teens – Rory Dick, Mark Everson and Travis Toth – the 3 Musketeers killed in a train/car collision on the Fourth Line, south of Highway 7 in 2000. No location has been chosen

for the outdoor facility, to be named after Raymond Getty, the 15-year-old Acton teen shot and killed by a 17-year-old visiting at his dad's Danville Avenue residence in 2003. In past years, proceeds from the popular tourney helped fund the Acton skateboard park, named in honour of the 3 Musketeers.

To register for the Saturday, August 24 scramble format event at Acton Golf Club call Kathy Everson at 519-853-2151.

## OH, BABY

Want to celebrate the birth of Baby Boy Windsor in a formal way? Books of Congratulations are available at both branches of the Halton Hills libraries for people to send their best wishes to the Royal couple and the as yet, unnamed Prince of Cambridge.

At press time, seven people had signed the book at the River Street branch. It and a similar book at the Georgetown library will be forwarded to Clarence House in the coming weeks.

## PARAMOUNT PULLS OUT

Suddenly, it seemed, Paramount Pallets was gone. The company, based in Etobicoke, quickly and quietly closed its plant on Main Street North within the past few weeks, moving operations to its Rexdale operation.

Company officials have not responded to several requests for comment on why the Acton location was closed, but a receptionist said all of the Acton workers were offered jobs in Etobicoke, but she did not know how many made the move.

## SALSA SOUNDS

There will a Latin American flavour at the Speyside Fries on the Fly location tomorrow (Friday) from 6 to 8 p.m., as owner Norm celebrates his one-year anniversary with music from the band *Farracus*.

Not as busy this summer as last – Norm blames the weather – Fries on the Fly still draws regulars from Guelph, Mississauga, mainly for the favourites – poutine and Newfie fries.



**FOOD & FLOWERS:** Tasty to eat and lovely to look at, Logan – with juicy berries – and mom, Teresa Smerek – with beets and blooms – offered up some of the Smerek Family Gardens' harvest at last Thursday's Acton Farmers' Market. – Ted Tyler photo

# LETTERS

## Stay off Fellows

Dear Editor:

Buses running down Fellows Street? Westbound buses turning left from Queen Street onto Eastern Avenue? It can be a challenge to turn out from Eastern onto Queen even going right, how safe/practical is it to have a huge bus turning left going west bound? Hmm ... these suggested solutions remind of a old comedy set up: He says "Was it good for you?" She replies "I don't think THIS was good for anybody."

Here are a few ideas I would like to throw out there, and of course I don't pretend to know the cost or traffic flow impact, but I think they have some merit. Make Queen/Eastern/

Young street into a "T" intersection with full traffic lights and pedestrian crossings. Perhaps a new entrance to Shoppers Drug Mart would line up with this, but it would be academic to suggest it now, unless this idea was accepted. This would sure help to let people walking and trying to cross anywhere near here, as the only cross walk is way up by Tim Hortons.

Now traffic, including westbound buses, could proceed straight through from Queen onto Eastern, even the eastbound buses could turn right here, drive right to the bus stop, then back to this intersection and proceed east onto Queen (HWY 7 East). No need to go

on Fellows Street.

What would really make this work would be if the former sulphur plant lot property could be acquired/leased for a bus stop area and a turn around loop. Now you have your train station and bus station adjacent with the buses only running a short west/east over the tracks to the the bus stop then back to the new intersection, this would eliminate any bus traffic on the smaller side streets. Thank you for your time.

Keith Porty,  
Acton, ON

*This letter was sent to Mayor Rick Bonnette, with a copy to The New Tanner.*

## Diagnostic and treatment improvements needed for Lyme Disease

To the editor,  
RE: July 11/2013 article regarding Lyme disease.

As a Canadian living with Lyme Disease, it appals me to see it compared to diseases such as Chlamydia, Hepatitis C, gonorrhoea and West Nile virus. Over the past year, I have undergone countless trips to doctors, specialists, and emergency rooms. I was referred to a heart specialist, a gastro specialist, neurologist, and allergist, underwent MRIs and numerous other tests, all which gave me a clean bill of health.

When the doctors hit a brick wall with trying to treat my physical symptoms, I was told it was all in my head and was referred to a psychiatrist who quickly concluded that my health issues were not mental and had to do with my physical health only.

With traditional health care working against me, I sought the advice, and medical attention, of a Naturopathic Doctor, who performed additional testing and found I was positive for Lyme Disease, and two infections of Lyme Disease, Babesia and Bartonella.

It was clear to me I would not receive the help and treatment I desperately needed here in Ontario, so in May I met with an American doctor with a dedicated practice treating those living with Lyme Disease. The practice of roughly 800 patients includes 600 Canadians, like myself, who did not receive the medical attention here in Canada.

I became infected with Lyme Disease when I was bit by a tick, here in Halton Hills and then developed a fever, chills, muscle aches, fatigue, and increased

to numbness and tingling in my entire body, pain in neck, brain fog, food allergies, extreme coldness hands and feet, neuropathy and headaches. The disease was so debilitating that I was unable to work.

We need to spread awareness for this horrible disease, which if left untreated, can result in death. Too many people are suffering and not enough is being done to help treat those suffering from Lyme Disease.

Given the changes in the climate, and the rising number of confirmed Lyme Disease cases, something needs to be done to help educate Canadians on the signs and symptoms of Lyme Disease, but also those in the healthcare system to better diagnose and treat the disease.

Regards,

Bev Aalbers  
Halton Hills, ON