GRAPEVINE

LIFE AFTER FOOTBALL

Acton Tim Hortons owner John Malinosky's previous life as a CFL offensive lineman was recalled in a Toronto newspaper's feature last week on a "chatting with the champions – then and now" a feature on the 1983 Argonauts who won the Grey Cup.

Malinosky, who has owned the Acton Tims since 1995, said he's in the process of opening another in Georgetown, where he lives with his wife. They have three children and three grandchildren. He told the Toronto Star that Acton is a "...wonderful small community," where "everybody knows everybody. I love it," and spends his days at work or walking the family's six dogs.

BAND BATTLE

Ten teen bands will compete for a chance to win a \$1,000 recording session at Erinwood Studios and \$300 cash in a teen battle of the bands at the Acton Fall Fair. A second prize of \$200 and a third of \$150 will be awarded – each participating band will also receive a \$50 appreciation gift.

For contest rules text Tracey at 519-216-5379, email traceyw57@hotmail.com or join the Facebook event at https:// www.faebook.com/

Bands must sign up by September 2 at 9 p.m. for auditions on September 4.

UNITED WAY BALL

Acton crooner Monty Greig will MC the annual United Way's President's Ball on September 14 at the Club at North Halton, a semi-formal soirée to help raise money for the social services organization which funds 21 groups.

Along with a cocktail hour, there will be a silent auction, dinner and dancing. Call Janet at 905-877-3066 for tickets or information about making a donation to this year's campaign, or to become a sponsor.

BUSINESS AWARDS

Nominations are now being accepted for the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce annual Business Achievement Awards. The award categories include Entrepreneur of the Year, Green Award, employee of the Year and Business of the Year. Nominations will be accepted until September 5. For details call 905-877-7119.

FAMILY FARM DAY

From pioneer chores and games of yesteryear to high-tech geocaching, there will be something for everyone at the third annual Alexander Family Fun Day at the Halton Region Museum in Kelso Conservation Area on September 8.

The event, named for one of Halton's first farming families, will include a Birds of Prey show, entertainment, crafts, games and food. For details visit www.halton.ca/farmday or dial 311.

POOL RENO

The Acton Lion's indoor pool will reopen on September 8 following a temporary closure for major renovations to tile the pool deck.

The pool was closed for August as the old concrete deck was covered with new blue and white tiles. In the past few years, updates at the pool included repainting, new lighting, renovated changes rooms, washrooms and showers.

FADE TO BLACK

The James Bond movie Skyfall will be screened outdoors in Prospect Park on Saturday night for the wrap-up of this summer's Movies in the Park, staged by Party Cinemas. Saturday's movie marks the fifth anniversary of the popular monthly event.

Thanks to the generosity of at least nine local sponsors, admission is free, but patrons are asked to donate an item of non-perishable food for FoodShare. The film begins at dusk. For details call 888-853-0053.



SPLASH PARTY: There was fun, food and fellowship as Superior Glove Works employees and their families enjoyed pizza, cake and refreshments last Thursday at the Superior Glove splash pad in Prospect Park. President Tony Geng (standing) said the annual event is designed to foster a family atmosphere at work. – Submitted photo

LETTERS

Youth centres seek permanent funding

To the Editor,

For many years Links2Care has operated two drop-in centres for youths aged 12 to 19: Off the Wall Youth Centre in Acton and Open Door Youth Centre in Georgetown. These centres are vital to the approximately 700 youth who regularly use them, both as drop-in centres and as a source for counselling and referrals. As a regional charity we will do all that we can to ensure these two centres continue to operate. We also hope to expand the youth program into other areas of the region, but the existing centres must be financed before considering expansion.

Links2Care is appreciative of the community funding it has received for the Centres. About a quarter of the required annual funding comes from the United Way of Halton Hills and the Town of Halton Hills combined. In addition, first a Trillium grant and then the Region of Halton provided about half of the annual requirements. However neither the Trillium grant or the Region's funding was ever intended to be permanent, and by December 31, 2013 no

more funds will be available from either source.

Each year Links2Care has shown its enthusiastic support for these youth centres by making up the funding shortfall (about 25 per cent) through Links2Care charity events, donations, and its own reserves. While this will continue to be an important funding source, it is unlikely that Links2Care can raise three times its prior annual contribution to keep the centres open.

As a result, the Board has come to some difficult decisions:

The youth centres are important to the community and every effort will be made to keep them open.

- Links2Care will continue to apply for government grants and donations as well as seeking support from private companies and foundations.
- Once Regional funding ends (December 31, 2013), the centres will remain open until at least July 1, 2014. Links2Care will fund the deficit from its Reserve Fund, bringing its total contribution for 2013-2014 to over 35 per

cent of the annual cost.

 The centres will remain open indefinitely after that, only if sustainable funding can be found. A Links2Care Special Committee has been struck to find funding solutions. Citizen participation on the Committee is encouraged.

 If alternate funding cannot be found, the centres will close after June 2014.

The Special Committee's first meeting will be on September 10. Links2Care encourages all individual and corporate citizens with ideas or sources of funding to come forward by contacting Sandra Melhuish at smelhuish@links2care.ca

It is our goal to find the necessary funding and keep these vital services open. The Committee will seek government, personal and corporate sponsors and donations for the centres, and will explore additional fundraising events.

Please help us keep Off the Wall and Open Door Youth Centres available to the community of Halton Hills. Sincerely,

> Jeannie Collins-Ardern President & Board Chair Links2Care