

GRAPEVINE

BURGER TEST

Acton's Rallis Burger and Grill and some of its customers will appear in a marketing commercial touting a *Burgerblaster*, which will air in 118 countries in the New Year.

Local resident Tino Monte, who owns Lifestyle Productions - Monte Media, is a regular customer of Rallis and when he needed to produce a taste-testing infomercial for the microwave burger cooker, he asked owner Costa if he was interested and the answer was yes.

So, on November 7, Monte and his crew set up in Rallis and fed restaurant grilled burgers, and those cooked in the microwave with the *Burgerblaster* and asked if customers - and paid actors - could tell the difference - and according to Monte - they could not. "Whenever you see commercials with a 1-800 number... that could be us. We are one of three companies in Canada doing that kind of work for the U.S." Monte said, adding they shot extra footage for Rallis to use on its website.

DUCKS' DANCE

The Acton Aqua Ducks will be shaking their tail feathers as they host a teen dance at the Roxy on Mill Street tomorrow (Friday) to help pay for Club programs and event. The supervised fun runs from 7 to 9 p.m.

SENIORS WIN

The Acton Seniors Centre expansion fund will get a boost in the pre-Christmas shopping season with a donation from a discount special at Country Reflections/Ditto's Boutique.

From December 1 to 23, all stock is 15 per cent off, and for all who bring in a coupon, owner Lolita will donate five per cent to the Seniors Centre. The coupons are available at the Acton Seniors Centre, and at numerous downtown businesses.

HAMPER HELP

Need help making sure there is something under the Christmas tree this year for your family? Applications will be accepted until December 6 for the Links2Care Holiday Hamper Program which provides hampers of new clothing for kids birth to 12 months, and gift cards to buy clothing for 13 to 18 year olds from lower income families in Halton Hills.

Applications are available at the Links2Care Acton office at 47 Mill St. East, the Early Years

Centre at 85 Wallace Street, and the Acton Hub at McKenzie-Smith Bennett School.

Links2Care is also looking for people who want to sponsor a family this holiday by proving them with a hamper. For details call Cathy at 519-853-3310.

RENEWED FOCUS ON CRIME

A couple wanted in connection with a theft from the Acton Home Hardware store on Friday are the lead occurrence in the new Halton police *Caught on Tape* imitative.

Select video footage and still images of persons of interest or suspects wanted in connection with certain investigations are posted at <http://www.haltonpolice.ca/CrimeFiles/Pages/CaughtOnTape.aspx> - where the public can view the files, and submit leads to police investigators.

Police said improvements in the quality of video footage captured on security and closed circuit cameras has vastly improved in recent years, making it very easy to identify the individuals involved.



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Want to share a plate of pancakes and bacon with old St. Nick? Santa will be at the Optimist hall on Highway 7 between Acton and Georgetown in Saturday, December 7 from 9 a.m. to noon. Along with breakfast, guests are invited to take photos with Santa and join Santa's elves in making a Christmas craft.

O TANNENBAUM

For the past 15 years, Acton area residents have found their perfect Christmas tree - and helped local charities - at the tree lot run by the Men of Heritage Acton/Rotary.

This year's sales in the Hide House/Go Train parking lot begin December 6 - weeknights 6 to 9 p.m. - and weekends from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., while supplies last.



HOLIDAY FINERY: Floral artist Elizabeth Matheson of Stoney Creek showed a crowd of 40 people how to deck the halls with holiday finery at a recent Acton Horticultural Society meeting at Knox Church. -Ted Tyler photo



THEN & NOW



THEN: Mill St. in Winter - Dills Collection photo



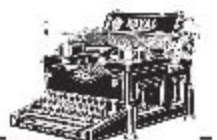
NOW: In 2013 - Ted Tyler photo

The bank vault door, possibly from the 1890s when this building at 45 Mill St. East housed the Merchants Bank is still in the basement of the building, which today houses a music studio, an accounting office and upstairs apartments.

Over the years, the building also housed the Bank of Montreal, a ladies clothing store and

a pizza parlour. It was purchased by the Lattour brothers - Paul and Chris of Georgetown - several years ago, and underwent major renovations. It reopened in April 2012, with Chris operating the C Sharp Music Academy, and Paul, a Certified General Accountant, running an accounting business.

PAST PAGES



TEN YEARS AGO

• Acton's Neil Charette, a retired businessman, thought the phone call telling him he'd won \$1-million in the Princess Margaret Foundation Lottery was a joke - but it wasn't.

• With a promise not to "bang him over the head" with the gravel, out-going one-term Mayor Kathy Gastle handed the symbol of power to Mayor-Elect Rick Bonnette at the last council meeting of the term.

FIVE YEARS AGO

• From a mid-1800s bucket brigade to Acton's first fire truck - a 1927 Studebaker - the rich history of Acton firefighting will be preserved in a museum at the Churchill Road station.

• Expansion of the Region's Dinewise food safety inspection program means Acton convenience stores, daycares, cafeterias, grocery stores and caterers must post inspection reports.