

GRAPEVINE



Safe swim

Swimmers cooled off safely in Fairy Lake on the weekend – the most recent test results found acceptable levels of bacteria in water at the Old Beach. In the 10 weeks of testing conducted by the Halton Health Department this summer, the Old Beach has been closed seven times because of unacceptably high levels of bacteria capable of making people sick.

Asked if he is concerned that the Old Beach has been closed more than it has been open this summer because of high bacteria levels, Halton's Supervisor of Health Inspections, Paul Burgher said "yes and no."

"At that Fairy Lake beach, we know there have always been issues with respect to Fairy Lake itself that could be due to storm water runoff," Burgher said on Tuesday, adding a study currently underway is examining Fairy lake water issues, including quality. The Boat-house beach in Prospect Park was closed in 2007 following a run of unacceptable bacteria levels.

While the regular water quality results last week made the Kelso Conservation Area unsafe for swimming, a later re-test showed acceptable levels of bacteria and the beaches were open, and crowded, on the weekend.

Casting call

Want to play the nasty Baron of Brisbane, a crazy bailiff or Mother Goose? Century Theatre Guild is casting for the November production of Mother Goose which will be staged in November.

There are roles for all ages for the pantomime that features comedy, dancing, great songs as well as romance, and surprises. For details call Jo Phenix at 519-855-4586 or visit www.centurychurchtheatre.com

Child safety

Sixty-two local children were processed through a child identification program at the Acton Leathertown Festival on Sunday, providing their parents with identifying information

they hope they will never have to use.

Hosted by the Mason Lodges of Wellington, the free MasoniCh.I.P. program includes five parts – a digital video, digital fingerprints, vital child information and a dental bite impression or oral swab for DNA. All of the information is burned onto a CD for the parents, and then the data is erased from the Mason's computer to ensure confidentiality.

Regional/Acton Councillor Clark Somerville, a Masonic Lodge member, helped at the Acton Festival, and at a family fun day in Erin the day before when the youngest child processed was a new born. "Imagine trying to get fingerprints from an eight-day old. I managed to get two thumb prints," Somerville said

Celebrating youth

The 150-plus local youth who have donated over 9,000 hours of volunteer service to Halton Hills Town programs and services this year will be honoured at a volunteer appreciation event on August 31 at the Gellert Community Centre in Georgetown.

Along with presentations of special volunteer wards, the event will include music, prizes and refreshments.

The Town wants to make sure it meets the needs of local youths and is conducting a Youth Needs Study to ensure the provision and management of recreation programs, facilities and services continue to meet the needs of citizens aged 13 to 19.

The survey can be found at <http://www.haltonhills.ca/media/2011/1312897441.pdf>

United Way

In preparation for its 25th anniversary party, the United Way of Halton Hills is looking for past board members, volunteers or friends of the umbrella social organization.

If you haven't been contacted, call 905-877-3066. The 25th anniversary President's Ball is September 17, at The Club at North Halton Golf Club.



DANCING IN THE STREETS: The sweet sounds and compelling beat of tribute performers – including Johnny Cash, Michael Jackson, and Justin Bieber – got people out of their seats to move to the music on Sunday at Acton's Leathertown Festival. – Marie Shadbolt photo

Letters

Reader encourages youth to participate

Dear Editor,

RE: WE need to talk!
Thank you for writing a column on YNS on July 14, 2011. Youth Needs Study (YNS) is urging youth out there in our community to provide feedback for this study. It's time to put our heads together to provide a strategy to support services and facilities for youth in the community of Halton Hills. Halton Hills is working on providing more recreational services to youth in our community. Most youth are giving lots of feedback to us but we need more of it. So, make our day by answering the polls on our facebook page as well as giving us more likes.

Again, please take your time to have your input towards YNS to help establish our Halton Hills community that we want to have and see

for us and for upcoming generations! Are you interested in volunteering with YNS, please feel free to contact Jessica Stovin, Recreation Supervisor, Community Programs either by phone at 905-873-2601 ext. 2276 or via email at youth@haltonhills.ca. You are more than welcome to visit us on Haltonhills.ca/youth. Please make yourself like to Facebook/yns.

Let everyone/the world know that YOUth matters in Halton Hills.

YOUth Matter! Have your say! Halton Hills Youth Needs Study (YNS)

*Yours Sincerely,
Harnoor Gill
YNS Youth crew
Grade 8 student*

Stewarttown Middle School, Georgetown

Wasn't that a Festival!

To the Editor,

Well, another Leathertown Festival has come and gone and from all reports it was a huge success. The Calithumpian Parade was a success, and we hope to make it bigger and better for next year. L'il Bautista was our Parade Marshall, and he was a big hit on stage and at the BIA booth signing autographs.

I would like to thank the committee who worked diligently throughout the year, Terry Foster, Nicholl Spence, and Councillor Jon Hurst. The Acton BIA could not have done this without you.

The Leathertown Festival Committee would like to thank all the volunteers who helped during the day. There's a lot of work involved putting on an event of this magnitude, even the weatherman cooperated (to a certain extent).

Special thanks to the Town of Halton Hills Public Works staff who worked so hard to help make our Festival a success. They were on site at 6:30 a.m. setting up road closures, picnic tables

and bleachers. Then they were back at the end of the day taking everything down and removing garbage. We even had Mill Street swept of debris first thing Monday morning after the Festival.

Thank you to all of our sponsors who make it possible to hire quality entertainment throughout the day for everyone's enjoyment.

We trust everyone who attended had a great time and we estimate there were approximately 6,000 people in attendance throughout the day.

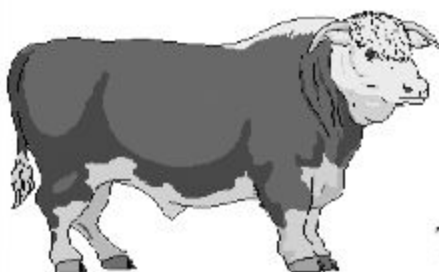
Next year is the Acton BIA's 35th anniversary and we are hoping to do something special for the Leathertown Festival. Plans are already underway to make this a spectacular event. We hope to see you there.

If you are interested in being on the Festival committee or have some ideas give us a call at 519-853-9555.

*Yours truly,
Josey Bonnette
Acton BIA Manager*

What's Your Beef?

Put it in a letter to the Editor!



It's better than just chewing your cud!

Deadline is Tuesday at noon.