

# GRAPEVINE



## Masquerade ball

Georgetown Hospital's diagnostic imaging and emergency department renovation/expansion will benefit with proceeds from the first annual Mayor's Masquerade Ball on October 22 at the Acton Town Hall Centre. With sponsor Dufferin Aggregates, the black and white affair event includes a casino, music, magic and a midnight buffet. For ticket information call Nancy at 905-873-2601, ext. 2340 or e-mail nancys@haltonhills.ca

## Calling all knitters

New knitters and seasoned experts are invited to Knit Night in Acton Thursday (tonight) at the River Street library. For details visit www.hhpl.on.ca or call 519-853-0301.

## Youth basketball

Acton youth are invited to come and shoot some hoops weekly at McKenzie-Smith Bennett School in a new youth drop-in basketball program. In Acton, the Town program runs on Mondays from 8 to 9 p.m. for 13 to 17-year-olds, and from 9 to 10 p.m., for 18 to 24-year-olds. The cost is \$3 at the door.

## African beat

The popular a cappella group *Soul Influence* will share their distinct African musical talent when they perform at Bethel Christian Reformed Church on October 16. The gospel group, known for their African rhythm and beat attempts to influence souls through its ministry music. The show is free, but a freewill

offering would be gratefully accepted. For details call 519-853-2121.

## Feather suit?

Many McKenzie-Smith Bennett students – and maybe some staff – would love to see Grade six teacher Mark Dipple dressed as a chicken. MSB stages its Terry Fox National School Walk Day tomorrow (Friday), and if Mr. Dipple's class raises \$1,000 in pledges and donations for the Terry Fox Foundation, he promises to wear a chicken suit.

## BBQ at CCC

Churchill Community Church hosts its annual chicken barbecue on Saturday from 5 to 7:30 p.m. Both dine-in and take-out are available. Call Helen at 519-853-2339 to make a reservation.

## Church celebration

Nassagaweya Presbyterian Church celebrates 175 years as a congregation on Sunday with a renewal and memorial service at 10 a.m., followed by a reunion lunch. For details call 905-854-2688 or visit www.nassagaweya.com

## Do you know?

Recently, it was suggested to Grapevine that Acton has some very famous or infamous, citizens. Do you know who earned three Stanley Cups with the Ottawa Senators in 1908 to 1911? Also, who is the Acton resident who was the first Canadian to be charged with impaired operation of a farm tractor? (Answers next week.)



**HARVEST HELPERS:** Quite a collection of silent, stuffed figures grace a farmer's fields along Highway 7, in between Acton and Rockwood. – Frances Niblock photos



**DOG DAY:** Saturday's Bark Around the Park wakathon for the Upper Credit Humane Society in Limehouse was a hit with dogs, their owners and potential owners. Bethany Vinson (left) and her dog Millie of Speyside made friends with Liz Campbell and Peter, one of the dogs available for adoption. – Ted Tyler photo

# Letters

## Debate over how to fight gridlock

To the Editor,  
RE: Highway Construction  
*This letter was submitted to both Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette and this newspaper.*  
Hello Mr. Mayor,  
I see that there is a lot of opposition to the proposed high-

way through good quality farm land. This should not happen because that land is probably being saved to grow more houses. My question is, where will the alternative highway be built? There needs to be a big road built in the vicinity of Hwy.7,

(407) to go west beyond Kitchener. The current gridlock that we have on all our local roads makes this very obvious to all who use them. Sincerely,  
*Peter Adema,  
Acton, On.*

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To the Editor,  
RE: Inquiry for Mayor Rick Bonnette  
*Mayor Bonnette shared his response to Peter Adema's letter with this newspaper.*  
Good Day Peter,

concern that these farms are being saved for more houses. Like you, we would like it to still remain as quality farmland. The lands where the highway is being proposed should be kept in the present form until at least 2031 and beyond. The origin of this highway is from pressure from Durham and York region to bring traffic to connect to the 401 at Tremaine. What Halton Hills is saying, before you slash through Halton Hills look first at widening the 401. If this highway goes through it will lead to pressure for more development into the rural area as there won't much farmland left.

Secondly, what Halton Hills is looking at and we are studying is to see where Hwy # 7 can be widened to also help the traffic flow on this highway. So this concern of yours is very valid. As a matter of fact, the MTO originally had a proposal 4-4 which was going to run north of Georgetown and Acton and connect to Guelph and Kitchener. Then they backed down as it was getting complicated coming through the NEC and the Greenbelt lands.  
I hope this clarifies our position.  
*Regards,  
Mayor Rick Bonnette*

## Links2Care Backpack Program

Dear Editor,  
Re: Backpack program  
In August and early September, Links2Care distributed backpacks to 173 students in Halton Hills. The backpacks were filled with school supplies, and included gift cards for new shoes. The children who received the backpacks are from lower income families in our community.  
This program would not be possible without the contributions of all the individuals, community groups,

churches, and businesses that generously provided financial donations, backpacks, and school supplies. We are very fortunate to have many wonderful high school students and adult mentors who volunteered their time to make the program run smoothly once again this year.  
This was our second year that we have offered the program and we have received very positive feedback from the families who were helped. They are very grateful that this program is

available. School supplies and shoes are costly for these families, as they struggle to cover the cost of basic needs such as shelter and food.  
Links2Care's Backpack Program is a great way to help lower income children start off their school year in a very positive way. Thanks again for supporting this needed program!  
Sincerely,  
*Cathy Gerrow  
Community Support Program  
Coordinator*