

Friends of the Halton Hills Public Library announce Caddystacks 3

Fore! The clarion call of golfers everywhere heralds The Friends of the Halton Hills Public Library's announcement of the return of its popular family event fundraiser, Caddystacks 3.

People will be getting their game on at the

Georgetown Branch on Saturday, April 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This day of active family fun for the community is the principal fundraiser for the Friends of the Halton Hills Public Library.

Adults, teens and kids can tackle the course

around the library shelves as part of the Family Open. New for this year: a giant sale of gently loved children's books, toys, and DVDs. Donations may be dropped off in the special box located in the main lobby of the Georgetown

Branch. Mark Rowe, Chair of the Friends of the Halton Hills Public Library, is excited to share this news once again. "Caddystacks has been a great success the past two years," stated Rowe. "People can enjoy a day

of fun and feel good that the proceeds go towards literacy programming and adding new Library spaces for the whole community to enjoy."

Specifically, funds raised from Caddystacks 3 will be used to support the Acton Reading Deck,

a serene outdoor reading and gathering place; and for the annual One Book, One Halton Hills program.

For further information, please contact Chief Librarian Geoff Cannon at Geoff.cannon@haltonhills.ca.

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Town promotes health of pollinators

The Town of Halton Hills continues to support local initiatives that help address the health of pollinators such as birds, bees, bats, butterflies and moths. Without pollinators, much of the food we eat and the natural habitats we enjoy would not exist. Local community groups and organizations are encouraged to get involved and can apply to the Community Sustainability Investment Fund which offers small grants to support sustainable initiatives such as pollinator health. The deadline for applications is April 3.

"Pollinators are critical to our environmental health," said Mayor Rick Bonnette. "Local organizations that are interested in supporting our local ecology are invited to apply to the Town's Community Investment Fund."

Information about the fund is available on the Town's website or by emailing sustainability@haltonhills.ca.

According to the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, at least one-third of the world's agricultural crops depend on pollinators. Taking action now

to protect pollinators enhances food security and is a positive step for our environment and economy.

Native species of annual and perennial wildflowers, shrubs, trees and grasses that are beneficial to pollinator health—e.g. Coneflower, Black-Eyed Susan, Serviceberry—are used on a regular basis in parks and open space restorative plantings by the Town, in naturalized turf areas and in more formal planting beds. Fully naturalized areas within our parks/open space systems contain pollinator-friendly plants like milkweed and asters. The Town does not actively remove these plants. Undisturbed places with tall grasses, fallen trees or open water provide areas for nesting and overwintering of native pollinators.

Pesticides are only used by Public Works in instances where public health is at risk, such as the removal of poison ivy or hemlock. They have not been used as part of the maintenance of turf, ditches or garden areas for over 15 years, in compliance with the Ontario Pesticides Act.



MYTHS AND LEGENDS: Leprechauns, rainbows and pots of gold were only a few of many topics covered by storyteller Pauline Grondin as she shared tales of the Emerald Isle, its history, myths and legends at the Acton Town Hall on Sunday afternoon. – Les Schmidt photo

"We're fortunate to have so many practices in place to help promote pollinator health," said the Mayor. "As well, the Town has over 500 hectares of open space which provides a diverse natural habitat for pollinators.

The Town's Office of Sustainability and Climate Change is doing some great work this upcoming year to help educate the public on the benefits of pollinator health and what they can do to help."

The Town's Office of

Sustainability and Climate Change will be offering free native seed packets on Saturday April 28. Residents can pick up a seed packet at the Earth Day and Sustainability Fair at the Georgetown Market Place (280 Guelph

Street, Georgetown) from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or at the Earth Day at Public Works event at the Robert C. Austin Operations Centre (11620 Trafalgar Road, Georgetown) from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Supplies are limited.

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