

# Donna Danielli's Just Kidding Around



The leaves are changing colour and it's time to start thinking about Halloween costumes and where to hide the candy so the kids don't find it before the big day. It's also harvest time and the weather is still nice enough to get out and enjoy long walks viewing the best the season has to offer. A lot of new programs for kids begin in October and I've listed as many as possible below.

The Town of Halton Hills kicks off its fall schedule with a long list of programs this month. **Learn to Skate** is for kids aged 3-5 years and combines a 20 minute lesson with free skating time for parents and kids. This takes place Fridays Oct. 12-Dec. 14 from 10-11

a.m. at Acton Arena and on Thursdays Oct 11-Dec 13 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at Memorial Arena. The cost for this is \$60. **Slam Dunk** on Mondays, Oct 15-Dec.17 offers three times for separate age levels. **Basketball** skills are taught to 7-8 year olds from 6-7 p.m., 9-12 year olds from 7-8 p.m., and 13-15 year olds from 8-9 p.m. and all classes take part at St. Francis for a cost of \$50.

**Woodworking** gives children aged 7-10 the chance to make a variety of items from wood and takes place Saturdays Oct. 13-Nov. 17, from 2-4 p.m. at Cedarvale Community Centre. Cost for this class is \$60. **Starry Starry Night** will run on Sat., Oct. 20 at the Civic Centre and offers those aged eight and up the chance to learn their way around the sky with Norm Elliott, a Royal Astronomical Society Member. Class runs from 7:30-10 p.m. for a cost of \$2. To find out more about any of the Halton Hills programs please call 905-873-2601, ext. 2265.

The Town of Milton has a huge assortment of children and

youth programs beginning this month. The following programs will be offered at the Milton Leisure Centre.

**Family Fun Night** begins Oct. 13 and runs every Saturday from 5-6 p.m. until June 15. Cost is \$75 and includes sports, active games and other activities for parents and children aged five and up. **Kidz Klub** is offered to 6-12 year olds on Wednesdays, from 6-7 p.m. beginning Oct 10 and running until June 12. Enjoy sports, unique arts and crafts and games for a cost of \$75.

**Mad Science** gives kids 6-12 years old hands on participation mixed with awesome demonstrations and experiments. This runs Mondays, 6-7 p.m. from Oct. 15- Dec 3 for a cost of \$89. **You Are A Star** gives aspiring entertainers aged 8-12 years the chance for theatre games, improvisation, voice exercise and movement skills. This runs Saturdays 10 a.m. to noon from Oct. 13-Dec. 8 and has a cost of \$71. 9-14 year olds will enjoy **Drawing and Cartooning** on Sundays, noon to 2 p.m. from Oct. 14-Nov. 18. This class has a cost of \$47. **Painting**, for 9-14 year olds, offers learning techniques in water-colour, acrylics and story illustration. Painting runs Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. from Oct 11-Dec. 6 and has a cost of \$64. Participants are asked to bring watercolours, brushes, pencils, erasers and a sketchbook to class. **Hocus Pocus** is a chance for kids aged 6-8 years to wear their Halloween costumes and take part in spooky crafts, games and songs. This takes place Sat., October 27 from 1-3 p.m for a cost of \$22. **Halloween Hijinks** is for 8-10 year olds and takes place Sun., October 28 from 10 to noon. Cost for this is also \$22. For information on any of these programs, please call 905-878-7211, ext. 2188.

The Town of Milton is also offering these new workshops for older children. **Making Positive Life Choices** takes place Wed., Oct 3 at Hugh Foster Hall from 7-9 p.m. This workshop offers 14-17 year olds speakers who are national athletes and promotes a message of believing in yourself, having a positive self image and respecting the fundamentals of fair play. Cost for this is \$20.00, and you can call 905-878-7211 ext. 2188 to find out more. **Proud to Be Me** is a program designed for grades five and up to aid in the development of positive

self-esteem through fun and interactive activities, events, sports, guest speakers and discussions. This runs Mondays Oct 15-Dec 3; at the senior's Activity Centre from 6:30 to 8 p.m. and has a cost of \$60. Call Tammy Corless, at 905-875-1681, ext 227 to find out more.

Milton Community Resource Centre begins a number of its school age programs this month. **A Babysitters Training Course** is geared for those aged 11 and up and runs Wednesdays 6-8 p.m. from Oct. 17-Nov. 21. Cost for this program is \$45 and that includes the manual. **Home Alone** for kids aged 9 and up runs on Tuesdays from 6-7:30 p.m., Oct. 16-Nov. 6. This class deals with strangers at the door and on the phone, household safety and first aid and emergency procedures. Cost is \$30, which includes the manual. **Pee Wee Street Proofing** teaches kids 6-9 how to avoid dangerous situations and deal with bullies. This runs Tuesdays from 4-5:30 p.m. Oct. 16 and Oct. 23. Cost is \$15 for this two class program. **Girls Nite Out** offers girls aged 9-11 a chance to enjoy baking/cooking, fashion, beauty care, nutrition, fitness, guest speakers and more. Classes run Mondays, 6:30 - 8 p.m., Oct. 15 -Dec. 3 for a cost of \$35. There will also be additional costs for materials. All of these programs take place at 917 Nipissing Road and you can find out more by calling 905-876-1244, ext. 18.

The sixth edition of Milton's **I Love to Read Book Festival** will take place on Sunday, November 4 at Milton District High School. Hours are from 12 to 5 p.m. and this offers kids of all ages the chance to meet and enjoy readings from such authors as Gordon Korman, Frieda Wishinsky and Bob Barton. Tickets are \$2 per child and \$5 per adult and advance tickets are available at Milton Public Library, Halton Hills Public Library or Milton Community Resource Centre. Students purchasing advance tickets will be eligible to win a personal brunch with Gordon Korman. For more information please call 905-875-INFO

(4636) or visit [www.town.milton.on.ca](http://www.town.milton.on.ca). **Illusionist Claude Haggerty** previews his Halloween shows, amidst crafters, pony rides, live music and more at the Downtown Georgetown Harvest Festival Saturday, October 6. Call 905-873-4970 or check [www.downtowngeorgetown.com](http://www.downtowngeorgetown.com) to find out more. **Upstairs at Loblaws** in Milton offers two **Moms and Tots** programs for children aged 3-5 and their caregivers this month. Wed., Oct. 3 is all about pumpkin-y fun and Mon., Oct. 29 offers Halloween adventures. Both classes run from 1-2 p.m. at a cost of \$7 per child. Kids aged 7-12 will enjoy **Soup and Bread** on Sat., Oct 13 from 10 a.m. to noon. Learn how to make a quick loaf of soda bread, cornmeal muffins and minestrone soup. Cost is \$10. Sat., Oct. 20 brings **Hands On Spooky Halloween Fun** creating spooky Halloween cookies from 10 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$15 per child/parent. Kids of all ages can take part in **Halloween Cake Decorating** on Sat., Oct. 27 from 1-3 p.m. Cost is \$6 per cake. For more information about any of these programs, please call Christine Thomas at 905-875-6871.

Andrew's Scenic Acres hosts the **Great Pumpkin Challenge** Oct. 6 and 8. Join the fun for the haunted forest, straw romp, hay rides, animals and pick a pumpkin. Call 905-878-5807 to find out more.

Enjoy **Autumn on the Escarpment Celebration** at Crawford Lake Oct. 7 and 8. Take part in craft making, folk musicians, wagon rides, hot apple cider, discovery hunts and more. Call 905-854-0234 for more information.

Milton Mall presents Pete Jarvis as "The Scarecrow" from 11:30 - 2:30 as part of its **Family Pumpkin Carving** on October 27. Pumpkins provided by Andrew's Scenic Acres will be provided for carving from 11 a.m. on, while supplies last. Call 905-878-3900 for details. The Milton Mall also offers safe trick or treating on October 31 from 7:30 on.

Well, that's about it for this month. Take care and remember to trick or treat safely, all those little goblins and ghouls are precious to us.

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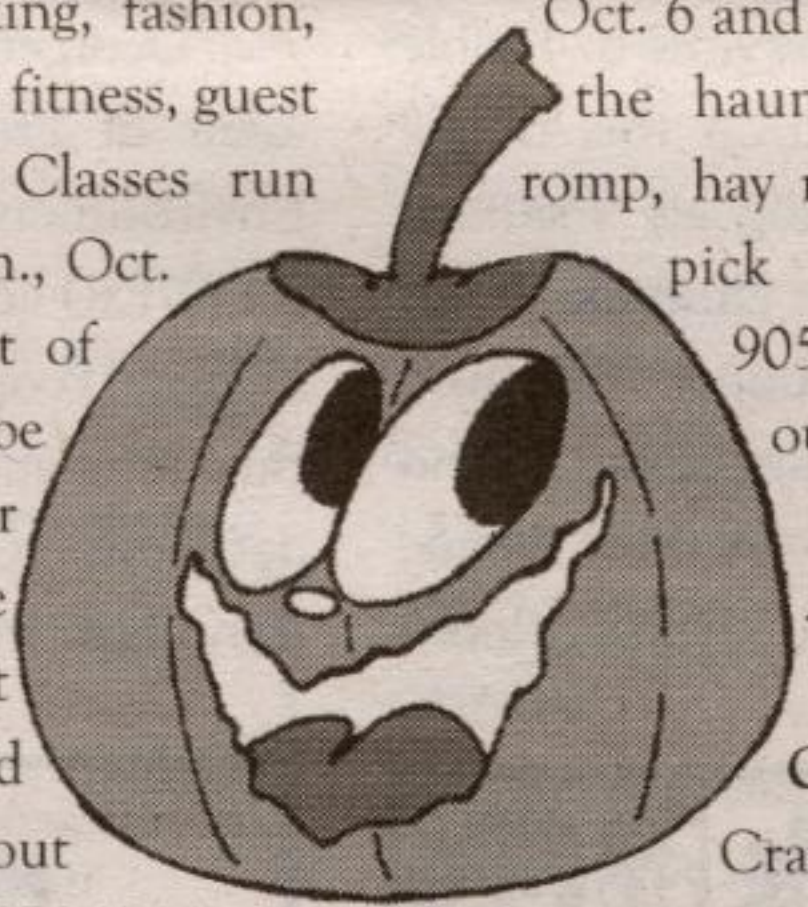
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**CALLING ALL LITTLE WITCHES AND GOBLINS!**

Come to downtown Acton on Saturday, October 27th  
at the old YMCA building on Mill Street for lots of tricks and treats!  
Children of all ages are invited to attend our annual "Haunted House" from 1 to 4 p.m.  
First you'll have a tour of our "Haunted House" then it's off on the "Ghost Tour"  
where you can get treats from local merchants.

For more information contact Josey at 519-853-1031 or check us out on the Internet at [www.downtownacton.ca](http://www.downtownacton.ca)