

Jeff Lumby's view from the country

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A Flush always beats a Full House

When the speaker of the house introduces the President of the United States at the State of the Union address he always says something regal like, "I now have the high honour and distinct privilege....." or some such thing. Now you know how I felt when I was asked to help judge the *Tird Annual Crazy Outhouse Race* in Georgetown on Saturday.

The only thing scarier than an outhouse is one on wheels, but we're all willing to look the other way when a great cause is involved. Cancer Assistance Services of Halton Hills was the beneficiary of this unusual event. Besides the actual race there was a parade of the outhouses, always a treat, the Toonie in the Toilet Toss, kids games, raffles and of course the much watched Celebrity Toilet Paper Toss. It's tougher than you think. The object is to bowl (no pun intended) your toilet paper roll down the street in an effort to unroll the longest length of toilet paper without breaking the paper. Our organizer and two-time Toilet Paper Toss champion, Tom Reynolds, didn't bring his "A" game this time around. Tom broke paper on both tosses and went home empty handed. It was the softer touch that carried the Toity Toss day. Josie Bonnette, the mayor's wife found herself in the winner's circle after two tosses and I don't think that sat very well with Mayor Rick.

Another highlight of the Crazy Outhouse Race is the pancake breakfast served up by George & Nick and the staff of the McGibbon Hotel. They sparked up the grill and cooked up French toast, pancakes, and bacon & eggs with all the proceeds going to CASHH. The boys also provided lunch consisting of wieners, beans and coffee. I guess that's their version of a fireworks display.

The eight outhouses that competed raced in heats of two with the final battle coming down to the Tackaberry Times and the Shriners. A lot of money was riding on the Shriners brick & %\$#house entry because of its solid design. But with no help from the little Shrinker scooters, the fez men came up short.

Tom, who works for the Weather Network, was able to hold off the rain Gods

long enough to keep the races dry and at the end of the day. Cancer Assistance Services of Halton Hills was given a cheque for just over \$6,000.00.

I understand that with so much on the line you want to bring in a professional observer from the sewage industry. Sometimes those folks just aren't available and you have to go to plan "B". For the record, I've never minded being number 2.

And for Winston, it was great finally seeing the top side of an outhouse.



It's every outhouse racer's dream to lift the lid of one of these puppies.



MP Michael Chong brings home the bronze in the Celebrity Toilet Paper Toss. He might have finished higher but his roll took an abrupt turn to the right.



Caroline & Caitlenn Kennel don't seem impressed with their dad's choice of costume.

PHOTOS BY
JEFF LUMBY

The staff of the McGibbon Hotel prepare for the onslaught at the Pancake Breakfast.



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Granite Ridge Golf Club offers more than just scenic views

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JENNIFER ENRIGHT

Club honoured as Business of the Year by Milton Chamber of Commerce

Scenic views are only part of the attraction for golfers who play at Granite Ridge Golf Club in Milton. According to the club's tournament coordinator Debbie Chuchmach it's the relaxed atmosphere at the club — and not just the public course's proximity to the Niagara Escarpment — that's appealing. The objective at Granite Ridge says Chuchmach, is to make playing golf an enjoyable experience.

Each season, from early spring until November, Chuchmach books and organizes all the tournament events. The list includes smaller size family tournaments as well as larger events such as the Milton Mayor's Tournament for the United Way, the Milton Chamber of Commerce Tournament, the Deirdre and Friends Golf Tournament, and the Milton District Hospital Tournament.

Chuchmach says Granite Ridge can accommodate a variety of different types of tournaments. "It doesn't matter whether it's 20 people or 280 people."

The public golf course also offers a variety of levels of play, so newcomers to the sport — whether they're taking part in a tournament or just out for regular play — shouldn't feel intimidated. Golf pro Gary Hay, who oversees the club's golf operations, describes Granite Ridge as a "mid-priced golf course" that's accessible to any level of player and any age group. During the regular season, the club encourages junior players by hosting parent golf nights on Fridays and there's a practice green available to people that want to polish up their game or are just starting out in the sport.

When the club was first established in 1996, Granite Ridge was an 18-hole golf course, but a few years later another 18-hole course was added. Bunkers can be seen at the more challenging greens and you'll find undulating greens and numerous water hazards, including many ponds and creeks that run throughout each course. At almost every hole, there are scenic views of the Niagara Escarpment.

Granite Ridge, which was recently honoured as Business of the Year by the Milton Chamber of Commerce, offers a complete range of facilities to golfers. Aside from a variety of tee boxes, locker rooms, and a full service bar, the club has an outdoor patio and barbecue and banquet facilities on site. People can also enjoy a meal at the Albatross Restaurant located inside the clubhouse.

Granite Ridge has been rated as a 4-star golf facility by Toronto Life Magazine and the club has received a rating of 4.5 out of 6 from Ontario's Online Golf Course Guide (www.OntGolf.ca).

Granite Ridge Golf Course is located at 9503 Dublin Line in Milton. Information on the club is available by calling 905-878-5494 or 1-877-465-3126. The website is www.golf-granite.com.



Gary Hay, who oversees Granite Ridge's golf operations, and Debbie Chuchmach, the club's tournament coordinator, are available to assist golfers at Granite Ridge, a 36-hole public golf course that caters to both experienced and less experienced golfers.

Nestled close to the Niagara Escarpment, Granite Ridge offers some scenic views at both of its 18-hole golf courses. The first 18-hole course was the work of the late Rene Muylaert, one of Canada's top golf course designers who worked extensively in Halton creating courses at Georgetown's North Halton Golf and Country Club as well as Indian Wells in Burlington and the Oakville Executive Golf Course. The other 18-hole course was designed by Dick Kirkpatrick.



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