

GRAPEVINE



Sing for their supper

The Royal City Ambassadors, a Guelph-based barbershop group, will present a \$2,000 cheque to the Halton Hills Speech Clinic at the annual Rotary Club of Acton's seniors' dinner on November 24.

The Ambassadors, including Acton's Don Lindsay and Paul Tamblin and Ron Stubbington of Eden Mills, sing in support of the Harmonize for Speech Fund which helps fight speech disorders.

The grateful Speech Clinic will use the money to buy educational videos and books for people with speech afflictions, including children and stroke victims. The Royal City Ambassadors will also perform at the Rotary Christmas dinner, which is already fully booked.

Brunch, shop and Santa

Acton Scouts, downtown merchants and the Acton Firefighters Association have a day of food, shopping and Santa Claus planned for Saturday. The 1st Acton Scouts and parents invite everyone to their pancake breakfast at Trinity United Church for either the 9:30 or 11 a.m. sitting. The Scouts will buy new tents and camping equipment with any proceeds.

After brunch, downtown merchants have some great Christmas gift ideas and the Santa Claus pa-

rade begins at 1 p.m.

Fans rave over Tiller

The Reverend Mark Tiller's convincing portrayal of a boozy, womanizing, fading Broadway star stole the show in Georgetown Little Theatre's production of Moon Over Buffalo on the weekend.

Tiller is a veteran GLT leading man who, when not playing egomaniacs, is minister at St. Alban's Anglican Church in Acton.

Tiller has been at St. Alban's for four years and began his acting career a decade ago when a parishioner, who was also a director, asked him to audition for a play. Tiller hopes to both act and direct again for GLT.

Credit Union building

Construction is slated to begin this week on the Halton Credit Union's new home on the southwest corner of Queen Street and Churchill Road in the Becker's plaza, now owned by the Credit Union. Plans call for a 3,500-square foot, one-storey building featuring a drive-through automated banking machine. Plaza improvements include a new façade and consolidated signage. The Credit Union, which hopes to sell its current Queen Street home, must still file an acceptable landscaping plan with the Town.



ESCAPE EXPERTS: Winners of the Halton Hills fire escape plan contest picked up their prizes at the Acton fire hall last Monday. Front, left to right: Natasha Quinn of Acton, Sarah and Austin Cavan of Georgetown, David and Tanya Carscadden of Acton. Back: Fire prevention officer Brian Ellsworth, Halton Hills Credit Union manager Marlene Bayko, Justine McIntyre and Rachel Quinn, both of Acton, Halton Credit Union Acton manager Harold Postma and fire prevention officer Doug Andrews. — Frances Niblock photo



FANTASTIC FOOD DRIVE: Members of the Acton and Limehouse Scouting movement collected more than 6,000 pounds of donated food in Saturday's 8th annual food drive. Stacking boxes at the Scout Hall are, front, left to right: Limehouse Cubs Ryan Arnold, Dylan Arnold and D.J. MacPherson. Back: Acton Guide Julia Niblock, Foodshare volunteer Martha Kelly, Venturer Kyle Loroso and FoodShare volunteer Wyman Little. — Frances Niblock photo

An open letter to the Acton, Limehouse communities

Dear Editor:

On Saturday, Nov. 7 the residents of Acton and Limehouse donated 8,514 pounds of food in support of Acton FoodShare. This represents a 35 per cent increase over last year, and an impressive average of over two pounds of food per household!

Year after year our two communities consistently support this valuable project, and each and every volunteer and donor should take pride in their community and themselves in the knowledge that "... you cannot hold a torch to light another's path without brightening your own."

Our compliments to Acton IGA for their generous donation of 4,000 bags, which made it possible for all of us to feel "hometown proud"! Thank you as well to the New Tan-

ner for their invaluable help in both distribution of the bags and the wonderful promotional coverage for the Food Drive. Thank you also to Tim Hortons for the donation of "TIMBITS" to feed those hungry volunteers.

Last, but certainly not least, a very special thank you is owed to the tireless volunteers who turn out every year to "put it all together": 1st. Acton Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and Venturers, Limehouse Cubs and Beavers, the Girl Guides and Calvinist Cadets.

Thank you Acton for your community Spirit and your compassionate generosity.

Sincerely,

Jan M. Inns,
1st. Acton Scouting

Research is exhausting

There are hazards to writing for a community newspaper. One of them is an early deadline. My column, for instance, is usually written on Sunday night. Last week I wrote about the provincial opposition parties getting set to personalize the upcoming election campaign. I wrote that it was a bad idea because Canadians don't like negative political advertising.

Well, my column hadn't even been typeset before the Tories started running commercials targeting Dalton McGinty. I couldn't believe it. Did the rocket scientists at Conservative headquarters not notice the American election results?

If this is going to be the Tory strategy for the next election then say hello to Premier McGinty.

The backlash was immediate and vocal. Almost universally, those normally sympathetic to the Tory cause said these commercials were a dumb idea. Poor Dalton has virtually no profile around the province so the "Big Blew (sic) Machine" decided to plaster his face all over the TV screens during prime-time.

Conservative spokethings were quick to point out that these were not "attack ads". The party was only trying to force the Liberals into revealing their health care policies. Like they would.

I saw the ads. To me they were a rather poorly done attack ad. If it walks like a duck and talks like a duck - it must be a duck. In this case - it's a lame duck. What's with all the question marks at the end of the ad? Do the Tory strategists really think trying to make McGinty "The Riddler" will persuade Liberal supporters to switch their votes? If they do - take me to the Bat Cave. I really don't want to see any more.

For the most part, Mike Harris carried the province by specifically telling us what he was going to do.

The Way I See It

with Mike O'Leary



In spite of huge opposition his government has kept those promises; like most, I don't like everything he's done or the way he did it. I give the government full marks though for tackling the tough issues in spite of the fear mongering they've had to endure.

What's needed now is a clear statement of how they intend to bring some calm to the current unrest without going back to the old system. What are their policies to take us into the millenium, and beyond? I want to hear positive statements; not negative ones. I most definitely won't support any party that lowers itself into the gutter politics of negative attack ads. I don't think I'm alone in feeling this way. If this is how the political scene in Ontario is heading then next election I'll just stay home. Strategists for all parties would be well advised to think twice before emulating our American neighbours. The McGinty ads should be pulled and those responsible given aggressive direction no to try and pull that crap here again..



If, by chance, any readers missed Constable Riddle's Corner last week (for shame) I wanted to remind you that the winter parking bylaw is now in force.

If you leave your vehicle on the street overnight you may get dinged for twenty bucks. (Note: A few streets have legal overnight parking. Check the signs.) Some folks are under the impression that the bylaw only kicks in when there is snow expected or

on the ground. Not so, my friends.

While it is true that the purpose of the parking ban is to ease snow removal, the regulation came into effect on Nov. 15 and will carry through to next spring. So be forewarned: unless you feel the need to enrich the Town treasury by twenty bucks a pop keep your wheels off the streets over night.

Regular readers will know that I'm a pretty avid sports fan. I endeavour to keep you apprised of the significant happenings in the sporting world. So when I heard that famous figure skater Katerina Witt had posed for Playboy I hustled down to the store and scooped out the story. Here is my report.

Witt, who is an Olympic champion, was as well known for her skimpy outfits as she was for her skating. It was no surprise, therefore, when she graced the pages of the magazine in half a costume. One surmises that she sought this exposure because her skating career was sagging. A significant study of the photo-spread found no evidence to confirm this rumour. Au contraire, one gets the impression that when her single skating days are over she has a promising future in pairs.

In case anyone thinks I am promoting sleaze I hasten to advise that the feature is done with as much good taste as the circumstances allowed. I would not be reporting on pornography. What with all the tapes and CD's in our house we don't even have a pornograph.

Rest assured, dear readers, that this exhausting and time consuming research was conducted with the highest journalistic ideals in mind. It's a tough job - but someone has to do it. I know there will probably be other future assignments requiring equal diligence but as I noted at the beginning of this article - them's the hazards.