

# GRAPEVINE



## Kinette cash

Acton teens helped the local Kinette Club raise more money for the long-awaited Acton Youth Centre, slated to open within months in the old Town Hall-Fire Hall complex. The Kinettes staged another successful teen dance at the Legion on Friday night and money from that dance and several others - approximately \$1,000 - is earmarked for the new Centre. Acton Kinettes are also making a sign to donate to the Centre.

The Kinette Club of Acton is also staging the annual skate-a-thon for Cystic Fibrosis at the Acton arena on April 11. Watch for flyers and pledge sheets to be sent home with school age children in the coming weeks.

## Day of Champions

The Acton House League Hockey Association stages its annual season end Day of Champions on Saturday with five championship games, consolation games and a banquet for each division. Approximately 300 local youths played on 21 house teams this season.

The day kicks off with a coaches' game at 8 a.m. pitting (league vice-president Rick) Smith's Snipers against (co vice-president Nick) Mastro's Maniacs. No word if league president George Hunak's bad knees will allow him to play or which team might be forced to play him.

## Good Friday procession

Several Acton churches are inviting the public to take part in a procession from Churchill Community Church to Trinity United Church to mark Good Friday. While a number of people, carrying a symbolic cross, will set out at 6 p.m. walk the four-kilometres between the churches, the public is invited to join the proces-

sion anywhere along the route which is south on Churchill Road to McDonald Boulevard to Acton Boulevard to Queen, Young and Mill Streets to arrive at Trinity for a 7 p.m. service.

The public is also invited to a sunrise Easter Sunday service at Churchill Church beginning at 7 a.m.

## Health care info

The Victorian Order of Nurses hopes its new booklet on community health care options will clear up some of the confusion concerning community care services. The booklet identifies what community health care services are available, how to get them and how much they cost and answers other commonly asked health care questions. To get a free booklet call 1-888-2273. VON is a not-for-profit charitable community health care organization that serves clients in Acton and the rest of Halton.

## Get connected

Acton library users will have faster Internet access and better computer equipment thanks to a one-time Federal grant being shared by Halton's four libraries.

The two branches in Halton Hills will share \$46,475 - money to be used to help improve job skills through the Internet with new equipment and technologies. The existing Internet workstation in Acton will be upgraded with new equipment and at least one more computer added. No word what will happen with the existing computerized Job Bank in the library.

Chief Librarian Betsy Cornwell said she was thrilled with the windfall and said will ask council for pre-approval to spend \$8,000 already in the budget for workstations so the new service can be ready as soon as possible.

## Exclusion ....

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mean "this is mine, you can't have it!"

I'm not naïve enough to think that we (residents of smaller neighbouring communities) should be able to enjoy the benefits of your tax dollars without contributing, but there has to be a better way. It is my opinion that we have great resources in our area (ie: Acton and surrounding communities). We have some very

intelligent, knowledgeable hardworking citizens who care about our collective quality of life and sense of community despite political boundaries. Let's get creative, pool our resources and work together to find a positively motivated, morally acceptable solution to this problem so that there can be time and space for all to play!

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Rockwood



**CHECKING:** Members of Acton Baptist Church Youth Group, the Garbonzo, check out their list of scavenger hunt items during their fundraising 30 Hour Famine for World Vision last weekend. The group raised about \$2,000 for their project. - Maggie Petrushevsky photo



The warm spring sun is gradually eroding snow caps in fields such as this one at a horse farm at Limehouse. Spring arrived Sunday and the weatherman is promising warm days. Glory. Glory. Hallelujah!

## C'mon Mike - call the vote!

A few months ago I predicted the Tories would wait until fall to call an election. Now you know why I can't win the 649 Draw. I can't foretell the future. Obviously, with the government making an announcement a day, we are looking an imminent campaign. The smart money says we'll go to the polls in June.

I have to admit that I'm disappointed in how the Tories are handling the run-up to the election. I have no patience with the dodging and weaving the Premier and his ministers are going through. Why can't they realize we are big boys and girls and stop acting coy. Every time we have an election in this country we go through the same crap. The exception is municipal elections which are held after a fixed term. I find this system much better and is an idea whose time has come. We should have a federal election every five years and a provincial one every four. They should be times so the provincial vote occurs around the middle of the federal term. All provinces should go to the polls on the same day.

If nothing else this would save us all some money. If we knew when the election was going to happen the incumbents could do without the annoying commercials telling us how wonderful everything is. At the same time the opposition forces would feel no obligation to run commercials telling us how lousy everything is. I think anyone who would let such obvious propaganda influence their vote, one way or the other, is too lazy to study the issues and come to their own conclusion to base a voting decision on. It's why we often end up with less than the best politicians in power. Why would elected officials do the right thing when they know that all they need is slick optics to keep their jobs. Whenever one of these phoney,

### The Way I See It

with Mike O'Leary



syrupe commercials come on I lunge for the converter and switch channels. I encourage you to do the same.

The pundits are calling for the government to be handily re-elected whilst that may be true, I think we all know the campaign is going to be vicious. That's a shame, but I suppose the major parties have research showing that Ontarians will vote for those who can be the most "down and dirty." Immediately following a month or so of such brawling in the gutter we are all supposed to respect the victors as our "honourable member where, exactly, is the honour in acting like a bunch of jackals?"

No matter how they try to camouflage it, the big issue in the campaign is who is going to run this province; the government or the big unions? The three big teachers unions along are budgeted to spend \$3.7 million to oppose Conservative candidates when you add in the millions from other labour groups it's obvious that the next few months will be a good time to be selling advertising in this province. I expect to be reading a goodly number of books this spring. I call this self-defence.

I, for one, am looking forward to seeing who the unions are going to support in this riding. Obviously, many unionists supported the Conservatives last time out. They were furious with the NDP for the infamous "Rae Days." One can hardly blame them, I suppose that means they will support the Liberal candidate. But, if memory serves me right, the big unions were only slightly less contemptuous of David Peterson's government than they were about the

current regime. So how will they chose who to support? I have heard that the unions will rally behind the candidate who has the best opportunity to defeat the incumbent Tory. On paper that sounds like a good plan but I propose it will be easier said than done. Many union leaders are longtime NDP supporters. It will be a frosty Friday in hell before they send money to anyone other than the New Democrats no matter what the polls say. It should be an interesting exercise.

If the election isn't going to be held until June we all have to suffer through another couple of months of baffle-gab from all sides. I've had more than enough already.

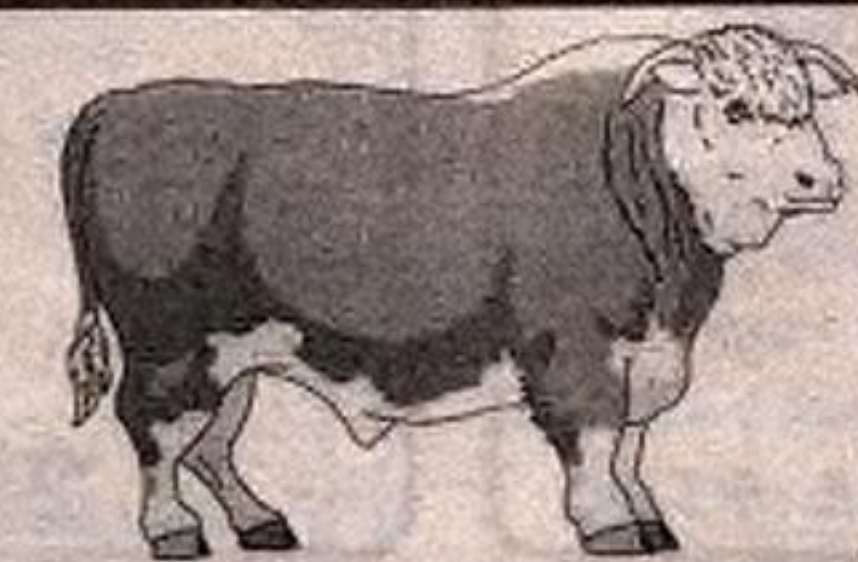
We've had enough strikes and work-to-rule campaigns. We've hired enough nurses. The time for posturing is over. Give us a break Mr. Premier: call the darn election now.

As a follow-up to last week's column I assume you are all aware of the big sex scandal that was exposed at the Canadian Forces School of Communications and Electronics in Kingston. It appears that many of our student soldiers were communicating in the Biblical sense.

Since this is a family newspaper I am thankfully restrained from going into the juicy details. Suffice it to say that our non-uniformed boys and girls went a long way to prove my point. Specifically I refer to the use of a sex toy - "Betty the inflatable sheep."

I told you the government, and specifically the army, would screw-up the program. They were supposed to procure a combat bra. Instead, they went out and bought a comfort baaa.

And you wonder why your taxes are so high.



## WHAT'S YOUR BEEF?

Put it in a letter to the Editor!

Deadline is Tuesday at noon.