

GRAPEVINE



Artist opens show

The oil paintings and collagraphs of Acton artist Kim DeBruyn are on display until the end of June at the Williams Mill Gallery in Glen Williams. DeBruyn's show and sale is called "synchronicity" and features emotional paintings of a figure, often done in a series, with abstract landscapes.

"One piece will go with the next," DeBruyn said, adding the timing was right for her to present a body of work.

"Everything is connected by colour, by the look of the paintings. They are very emotional paintings. The pieces hung well - it's dramatic," DeBruyn said, describing collagraphs as a collage-based form of print making with wonderful textures.

DeBruyn, a rural Acton resident for 15 years, worked with stained glass before starting to paint. She opened a studio/workshop in the Mill three years ago.

Mill Street merchant?

Mill Street could soon have a new merchant. Those in the know say someone is very interested in leasing the old Home Hardware building. After sprucing up the exterior of the building, owner Charlie Kinal is working on the interior with a prospective tenant in mind. Reports say the natural wood floors look wonderful and with the old shelves gone and new drywall installed, the store looks good.

Youth dance

Scratching Post - the band getting a lot of airplay with its hit single *Bloodflame* - will headline at the Happy Fuzzy Musical Festival - an all ages concert at the Acton arena on June 5.

Organized by the Halton Hills Mayor's Youth Acton Committee (HHMYAC), the event has dual purposes - to have a good time and to raise money for youth programs and initiatives in Halton Hills. The advance ticket price of \$5 - \$7 at the door - includes a free shuttle bus from

the Georgetown Marketplace to Acton, and back.

Acton nominee

Dorothy Rognvaldson, a tireless Acton volunteer, was one of 20 women to be nominated for the Women's Centre annual Women of the Year Award. Dorothy, 81, is a volunteer driver for the Acton Red Cross, she's on the board of Halton Hills Community Support and Information, is an active church member and helps prepare meals for people just released from hospital. Four Halton women, including Acton's Dorothy Allen, received their awards earlier this month in Oakville.

Election countdown

If you haven't received a notice of registration card by now, your name may not be on the voters' list for the June 3 election. To vote, you must get a certificate to vote from the returning office in Milton or at an advance poll, open until 8 p.m. tonight (Thursday) and tomorrow at the advance pole in the Acton Legion. For the first time you can also, with the proper documentation and identification, add your name to the voters' list on election day.

Annual antiques

The Acton branch of the Canadian Cancer Society made a tidy profit of \$3,000 at its second annual antique show and sale at Acton arena. Over 1,100 people picked up some deals from the 30-plus vendors - many of who want to come back for next year's event.

Cancer Society publicity rep Pat Kentner said the antique dealers were pleased with a steady stream of people on Friday and Saturday but Sunday was slow - probably due to the great weather.

"There was something for everyone and it was all good quality," Kentner said, adding they've booked the arena for next year's show and sale that they hope will be "bigger and better."

Manor mothballed

All but 11 residents of Village Manor have found new homes as the court-appointed receiver prepares to close the Acton care facility at the end of June. The home, which has operated on Main Street North for approximately 25 years, has 39 licensed beds with 27 residents, most of them with physical or psychiatric illnesses. Eric Hall, a spokesman for the management company hired to run the Manor is confident homes will be found for everyone and they "don't foresee a problem with homeless people walking around the town."

Earlier, the receiver said once the old building was vacated they'd look at the options, including rebuilding a care home on the site. The 12 full and part-time employees at Village Manor will be laid off at the end of June.



MOTHER-IN-WAITING: It's hatching time again and the new cygnets are about to appear any time now at Fairy Lake. This swan was too busy brooding to object to a photographer intruding on her privacy. - Ted Tyler photo

It's Chudleigh for me!

I have previously written about the deep roots our family has in the Liberal party. I know some readers think I'm a died-in-the-wool Tory, but that's just not true.

Had Regional Councillor John Day won the Liberal nomination he would have been a big draw for me. But he didn't.

I have come to the decision to support Ted Chudleigh. To me, you have to seriously look at the candidates in the riding before deciding how to cast your vote. It is, after all, the individual MPP who we count on to represent us. I think Ted Chudleigh has done a pretty good job for Acton over the past four years. He is also the only candidate who thought it was important enough to open an office here during the campaign.

Personally, I don't like the American-style, leader-centred campaigns that are shoved down our throats these days. Our elections have become popularity contests between the big three leaders. From what I've seen so far, none of the leaders has especially impressed me. The massive advertising campaigns give me a pain in the tushy. As for the big debate; I thought it was a charade. Judging from the polls, which showed that almost 75 per cent of Ontarians preferred MASH reruns, most of you agree with me.

So, how then did I make my decisions? By looking at the local race. Here's what I concluded.

Obviously, as the incumbent, Ted Chudleigh has the advantage

The Way I See It

with
Mike O'Leary



of this track record. The government has recognized his hard work by appointing him Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Natural Resources.

Ted has had a high profile around Town and when he announced the opening of his campaign office said, "I love Acton and it's important for me to have an office here." Ted has tried to be in the Acton office at least one day per week.

Shortly after the last election I had a real concern about public health nurses immunizing children against their parent's wishes. I made an appointment to see Ted and was surprised he was both knowledgeable and concerned about the issue. He had already made inquiries. Later, he followed up with me on several occasions. My concerns were taken seriously.

When a local group was trying to save the old arena Ted got involved and tried to help. On a wet, miserable February night he showed up at the first fundraiser the Acton Agricultural Society ran to raise money for a new building. In themselves, these actions are no big deal but they show a commitment to our town that has been consistent from day one.

With Ted, we are assured of getting a representative who doesn't think the world ends north of Hwy. 401. I believe he has worked hard for our votes. I believe he deserves them.

I have gone over the information available from Mr. Anand who is carrying the Liberal colours. There is no doubt he has an impressive educational resume. Anand has a Masters degree in both Nuclear Physics and Education. He has served on many worthy volunteer boards in Halton and is obviously a community-minded person. While Anand's credentials are impressive, I think we need a more experienced business-type as our MPP. Let's face it, running the government is a massive financial and managerial enterprise. I prefer our MPP to have more hands-on practical experience than academic credentials.

I was also very concerned that Anand was quoted in this paper saying "Acton and Georgetown are almost twin cities." This in response to a question as to why he wasn't opening an office here. It leads you to wonder of he ever visited Acton. I know we are lowman on the totem pole voter-wise in Halton but a candidate still has to earn my vote. As of this writing, the Liberals haven't tried very hard at all.

I will admit my bias when it comes to Jay Jackson and the NDP. I have never even considered, in my wildest dreams, voting NDP. I know, I know, that's pretty closedminded for a columnist, but it's a cross I've learned to bear. I'm reasonably convinced that our local NDP supporters weren't looking to this space for an endorsement of their candidate in the first place, but if you are interested in learning more about Jackson's positions on the issues, he has an office in Georgetown.

Very quickly, that's how I came to my decision. I'm not voting for Mike Harris, or Dave Johnson or Al Palladini. I'm supporting Ted Chudleigh because I think he'll do the best job for our town.

Oh, I know we're all supposed to be concerned with broader issues like education, health and all that... and I am. I don't agree with everything the government did over the last four years.

I just don't believe the other parties have any new ideas that will make the situation better. McGuinty and Hampton both say they are going to spend billions. So does Harris. I just think the Tories might spend them smarter.

Harris told us he was going to change the way health and education were run. He did. Many people are angry with him. I tend to get angry when a politician doesn't do what he promises. But that's just the way I see it.

No matter who you support, the important thing is that you get out and vote. There's an advance poll at the Legion today and tomorrow until 8 p.m. The election is next Thursday.

So who's going to win? Everyone who casts a ballot. Those who don't bother to vote are the losers. Remember - if you don't vote... don't bitch about the results.



New arena a generous 'gift'?

Dear Editor,

In reading the remarks made by Ward 3 councillors Jane Fogal, I was interested in the unfortunate choice of words regarding the new arena in Acton. I would like to know who are the "we" who are paying the debt for the "Taj Mahal" in Acton since she seems to think that it was due to someone's great generosity that we received this magnificent "gift".

Would it possibly be the same "we" who insisted on demolishing

Acton's existing, and definitely repairable, arena, over the objections of a large majority of the citizens of Acton?

Or maybe it is the "we" are now discussing the demolishing of the playing fields and tennis courts in Acton's Prospect Park, in order to create a "passive park; where people can sit around and meditate, without the intrusion of Acton's young people having fun.

If our illustrious council is interested in providing recreational facilities

for the citizens of Halton Hills, possibly they could consider spending a few thousand dollars on putting a weed cutter into Fairy Lake, as Beardmore's used to do, and thereby make it possible for a God-given, natural facility to be enjoyed by all. Of course, this lake cannot be down the road, but the last time I travelled on it, I found that Highway 7 runs east and west, and we would be happy to share our lake with our neighbours.

Irene Watson