

GRAPEVINE



Behind the scenes

"No comment" is all Town officials will say to a rumour that something big in terms of economic development may be brewing in Acton.

Acton Councillor Norm Elliott alluded to "things happening behind the scenes that are good things" for Acton, adding one of them is "quite sensitive," but wouldn't comment any further and advised against going on a "goose chase" for information.

Remembrance march

Eight Acton area Scouts and four leaders and leaders-in-training – all wearing full packs – marched from Worden Wood, east of Acton, to the cenotaph for Saturday's Remembrance Day ceremony.

The leaders wanted the Scouts to experience what it was like for soldiers to march with a heavy pack. Scouts took turns wearing WW II equipment, including a gas mask, helmet and web belt.

United Way update

United Way of Halton Hills campaign brass are hoping the second direct-mail appeal for funds, sent out to homes last week, will generate more than the \$15,000 raised with the one mail-out last year.

The umbrella service organization that provides funds to 18 member agencies, abandoned its door-to-door appeal for funds two years ago in Acton and Georgetown for the direct mail campaign, which has generated more money than the canvassing did. The goal this year is \$250,000.

Tickets are still available for the other major fundraiser – a raffle that includes a first prize of a 10-day; all expenses paid cruise, valued at \$10,000, to the Caribbean. Halton Credit Union, Halton Hills Furniture and the Needle Gnome have tickets.

Kenya musings

The most recent news from the Kauffeldt family – who left Acton last year for a four-year stint in Nairobi, Kenya, with the Pan Africa Christian College – included tales of widespread corruption, including police involvement in armed robberies.

But, to show the family hadn't lost its sense of humour, they also sent their "You Know You're in Kenya when" list that included:

- the morning traffic report includes a cattle crossing
- the police force makes the 10 most wanted list, and,
- 'sleep tight, don't let the bedbugs bite' takes on new meaning.

Unique shopping

Acton artisans and crafters are among the potters, sculptors, weavers and spinners whose handmade creations will be on sale this Saturday at the Credit Valley Artisans annual craft sale.

Organizers promise Christmas shoppers there will be something for everyone – even those hard to buy for people – all of it unique and made by CVA members.

The sale, which includes a bake table and refreshments, is in the Cedarvale Park Cottage and runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Potty politics

One eligible Acton voter was expected to hold his breath until he turned blue and possibly stamp his foot in anger when told on Monday that he couldn't vote.

Childish behaviour yes, but understandable if you're 22 months old. James Bursa, who will be two in February, along with his parents, received a voter eligibility card recently, telling him where and when to vote on Monday.

"He's not talking," mom Brenda said when asked which candidates her son favoured, adding it would be Barney, if he were on the ballot.

Teen sex talk

Having trouble talking to your teen about sex? Well, there's a parent information night coming up next Wednesday (Nov.22) that may answer a lot of your questions and concerns.

Sponsored by Halton's health department, in partnership with Halton Hills Community Support and Information, the seminar will help parents talk to their kids about healthy sexuality, teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

The session begins at 7 p.m. at HHCSI's Mill street office.



LEST WE FORGET: Member of the 1st Acton Scouts hiked, carrying packs and WW II equipment, from Worden View to the cenotaph in Acton for Saturday's Remembrance Day services. Getting a feel for what it was like to march like a soldier were, front, from left: Rob Ricketts, Kyle Moran, Nathan Brown, Scott Mackie and Brad Daamen, Back: Scouter Godwin Kruitwagen, Chris Rivers, Scouter Dave Loewen, Lucas Kruitwagen, Scouter Jim Garrett and Andrew Garrett. – Frances Niblock photo

Boogitty, boogitty Boo!

The Way I See It



with

Mike O'Leary

The antics of the Federal Election parties disturb me. Rather than convince us that they have the principles and vision to run this country, the campaign has devolved into a shrill shouting match where the leaders try to terrify the voters into voting for them. I suppose if you scare easily, this strategy might work. I have more regard for Canadians. Hopefully the tactic will backfire. If not, then we get the government we deserve. Here's how I see some of the issues.

We are the most overtaxed people in the G-8. For this I blame the Liberal and Conservative Governments of the last 30 years. Mr. Chretien resents any reference to history, preferring to try and sell the 2000 version of his little red book. With a record like his, I don't blame him. Mr. Chretien covets every dollar we manage to keep for ourselves. I don't believe his "Promised" tax cuts will come to pass. If, by some miracle, future taxes are cut, watch for increases in unemployment insurance, C.P.P. or other hidden taxes to claw back any savings. Come to think about it, the Liberals haven't promised NOT to raise the G.S.T. have they?

Joe Clark is a red Tory and is as tax-hungry as the Liberals. He quite happily supported "Lyn' Brian's" regime which imposed the G.S.T. Now he has the audacity to accuse Chretien of lying to us? How foolish, does he think we are?

The N.D.P. would reduce taxes by a buck-thirty-two apiece. If you intend to vote N.D.P., you're reading the wrong column. I hope they disappear. Judging from the polls, they may. If not, they will end up at best inconsequential.

The Canadian Alliance Party became a political force because Conservatives were disgusted with the Mulroney government. They espouse similar fiscal policies as the Governments of Alberta and Ontario. Both provinces have balanced their budgets and substantially reduced taxes. I believe an Alliance Government in Ottawa would take less of our money and waste less than either the Liberals or Conservatives. I say "waste less" because I recognize that all governments will waste some. It seems to be the nature of the beast.

Perhaps the low point of this campaign has been the efforts of the Liberals and mainstream press to

bring Stockwell Day's religious beliefs into play because he's a-shh-Christian. For those who may be terrified by the prospect of a Christian being P.M. here's a scoop for you. They're everywhere! As you read this you're surrounded by them. Here in Acton we have no less than ten churches full of them. But, you say, he actually lives his beliefs. Too bad more of us don't, say I.

Come on people do you actually believe that one person can or would attempt to impose their religious beliefs on the country? Can you imagine the rest of Parliament going along with it?

Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman even stuck his head into the sewer of intolerance by suggesting that Day may be anti-Semitic. I wonder what Mel would say if we started a rumour that, because he is Jewish he was planning to make the T.T.C. and every store in Toronto shut down from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday. He'd probably tar us as being anti-Semitic. So tell me, is being anti-Christian any less repulsive than being anti-Semitic? Day's religion doesn't bother me. Actually, I'd trust a born again Christian before a recycled liar.

The Liberals claim to be the saviours of medicare. Hell, they're the ones who wrecked it over the last few years by cutting funding. It was only on the eve of this election that some funding was restored. Are we supposed to forget that? The Liberals say Alliance would bring in two-tier medicare. Jean Chretien has his own doctor who travels with him. I don't, do you?

We already have two-tier Medicare. You really think M.P.s wait months to see a specialist? Talk to people who live in Northern Ontario or outposts of Newfoundland who have to travel hundreds of miles for specialized care. Ask them if we have two-tiered Medicare.

There isn't a politician in this land who would dare dismantle Medicare. The facts are that the system is damaged. We cannot continue

down the same path or our Health Care System will implode. The Alliance is proposing to secure federal funding in law. That's the way it should be. Health Care should not be a political perk to be pulled out before an election plum for voting for the incumbent. This is the politics of fear.

I'm a law and order guy. I obey the law, expect criminals to be punished. Mr. Chretien has had seven years to change things. I suppose if you think Karla Homolka needs a new wardrobe you should support his party. If you believe young offenders need only a slap on the wrist for serious crimes then vote Liberal. If you think farmers should be arrested for not registering a .22 while punks in Toronto have handgun possession charges plea-bargained away, then Jean's your man. But if you're not happy with murderers being mollycoddled then you had better look elsewhere, because the Liberals will not treat criminals like criminals.

It will probably come as no surprise that I will support Tim Dobson of the Canadian Alliance in this Riding. I believe he will represent the people in Halton to Ottawa. I am tired of our M.P. representing Ottawa to us as has been the case with the last two M.P.'s. As for the argument that we're better off with an M.P. from the ruling party I find that hard to believe. On a recent C.B.C. program the Prime Minister got Julian Reed's name and Riding both wrong. After seven years you'd think that the P.M. would at least know our guy's name. Obviously our M.P. is out of the loop, to put it charitably.

I'm not afraid of the innuendoes and scurrilous rumours swirling around the Canadian Alliance. Disinformation campaigns don't sway me. I believe we need to smash the burdensome chains of overtaxation. I would welcome some new ideas and a new direction in Ottawa. I will not get that from either the Liberals or Conservatives.

Tim Dobson will be a decent, effective energetic M.P. I encourage you to examine the facts of his platform and consider giving him your support. Let's vote for the future so our children don't end up in the same taxation hell we find ourselves in today.

However you vote, please vote. The U.S. election proves that every ballot is important. See you at the polls.

LETTERS

A Legion bouquet

WELL DONE!

On behalf of the Royal Canadian Legion, Acton Branch 197, we would like to congratulate you for the great job you did on your Remembrance Day issue.

As you know we had a great turn

out for our service on Saturday, November 11th, and you deserve a lot of the credit. Putting faces to the names of our Veterans, opened a lot of eyes and hearts.

LEST WE FORGET

Thank you,
The Royal Canadian Legion

1,126 raised for UNICEF

To the Community of Acton:

A very big thank you is extended to all of you from all of us at Robert Little School for your generous support on Hallowe'en night. Your kindness helped us to raise \$1,226.00 for UNICEF.

This far exceeds our past totals and the children are very proud of this accomplishment.

Again, thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely,

The Staff and Students
At Robert Little School