

GRAPEVINE



SILVER BLING

Acton's newest jewellery store – tentatively called “Bling” – opens November 29 at 20 Mill St., East, most recently home to Scrapbook Crazy.

Owned and operated by Acton's Deb Fendley, the store will feature quality sterling silver chains and pendants, link charms and pewter figurines – most with a southern desert feel.

“There's a definite need for this type of store – you can't get quality jewellery in Acton,” Fendley said, adding her stock should appeal to young and old in selection and price.

Fendley is resigning as manager of Godfather's Pizza, a job she held for eight years, but don't despair, there will still be a Fendley behind the pizza counter.

Deb's daughter, Aimie Fendley who has been assistant manager at Godfather's for six years, is stepping into her mom's shoes as manager at the end of the month.

HORSE CARDS

Rural Acton's Arlene Fritz was just checking out the ride when this photo of her and a Toronto Police Mounted Unit horse was taken recently.

The final photos of the unit will be made into trading cards and used for promotion – officers on patrol give them out – but Fritz's actual pic will be taken this week, or next, at Casa Loma.



Arlene Fritz

BAZAAR TIME

Homemade baked goods, a penny table, touch and take table and kitchen crafts highlight the annual Lakeside IODE Bazaar and Tea on Saturday (November 13) at Knox Church.

The event runs from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

SCHOOL CRAFT SALE

Looking for a one-of-a-kind craft or special item made by an artisan to deck your halls this holiday season?

Check out the 9th annual Acton High School craft sale on Saturday for a popular event that includes the handicrafts of juried artists.

The event is staged by school council volunteers.

HO, HO, HO!

Santa arrives in Acton on Saturday, November 20, led through town in a one-and-a-half hour-long parade that begins at McKenzie-Smith Bennett School at 1 p.m.

At press time, there were 20 floats registered for the parade and five bands, including the parade-leaders, the Acton Citizens' Band.

COMBINED CHOIR

Members of the Knox Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir and the Halton Regional Police Chorus will make music together on Sunday afternoon during a performance at the church.

Acton Councillor Jon Hurst recently suggested the performance would be better due to his absence and that of a fellow politician.

“I pretty well guarantee an afternoon of beautiful music since neither Presbyterians Councillor (Clark) Somerville or I are members of Knox Chancel choir,” Hurst said, adding the performance, hosted by Knox Ladies' Aid, begins at 2 p.m.

FOX CALENDAR

Commemorative calendars, “a beautiful reminder of Terry Fox's Marathon of Hope,” are for sale at the clerk's department at the Civic Centre.

At Town Council on Monday, Acton Councillor Jon Hurst, a key organizer of Acton's annual Fox Run, suggested the calendars would be great Christmas gifts.

The front of the anniversary calendar, issued by the Terry Fox Foundation, is a picture of a worn-out running shoe, one of eight worn by Fox on his real foot during his run.

“On the back is a worn out sock. The sock Terry wore on his prosthetic leg for the entire length of his 1980 run,” Hurst said, thanking he Town for graciously making the calendars available to staff and the public.



HAUNTED HOUSE: Many hours of hard work went into the Everton haunted house tour that raised more than \$200 for the Guelph Humane Society on October 29 and 30th. Pictured left to right are; Brian (11) and Michael (7) Thomsen, Brandon Priebe (12), Evan Ledwith (11), Douglas (7) and Emily (9) Bowerman uses the Thomsen's yard and house to scare close to 80 people with a 15 minute tour that included murders, aliens, flying ghosts, a chained whiling mad man, haunted forest with smoke and lighting effects that rivaled a movie set, and the Terminator as a tour guide. Thanks went to Mrs. Thomsen, Priebe and Bowerman for the great snacks and refreshments at the end of the tour. – Submitted photo.

More proof – Polls are for dogs!

Exit polls initially indicated that our southern neighbours were headed for a new administration. Then the chickens hatched and President Bush won an additional four year term. For once, my political prognostication was almost right. I had said the President would win the Electoral College by 8%. He actually won by 13%. I thought the Popular Vote would be close. Instead, Bush received the most votes in presidential history and defeated Sen. Kerry fairly handily. Americans gave the President a clear mandate.

Predictably, many Canadian Commentators reacted with shock and bitter disappointment. How could Americans do this, they thundered. It's all a bit of a hoot really. Truth be told; Canada isn't even on the radar screen of most Americans and our opinion doesn't count. I doubt even the most ardent democrat stops to think: I wonder what Canadians think about this?

I think Canadians have a ton of nerve crabbing about a President who received 51% of the Popular Vote. We regularly elect a virtual dictator with less than 40% of the Popular Vote. The Canadian Prime Minister has far more ability to act unilaterally than the American President. Canadians stand idly by while traitors sit in our House of Parliament and try to tear our country apart from within. Recently, a B.Q. Member of Parliament refused to supply a Canadian flag. And what do our commentators rage about while crap like this goes on in our country? They're outraged about the Americans choice of President. Perhaps we should clean up our own house before criticizing anyone else.

The M.P. mouth from Mississauga wasted no time blundering into the fray. Her remarks, contrary to P.M. the P.M.'s warnings, were insulting and rude as usual. It might be different if this M.P. was a distinguished Parliamentarian. However, a book of her contributions to Canadians would consist of a title page, a page of ignorant slurs and 120 blank pages. She's a one trick pony, and hopefully, her 15 minutes are up. The Prime Minister should boot her butt out of caucus.

Several people have asked me why I thought President Bush prevailed. I think it can best be chalked up to God, guns and gays. Churches in America still hold

The Way I See It

with Mike O'Leary



sway over their congregations. The mainstream press had tried to denigrate believers by tagging them the “Christian Right”. A few years ago they had to change the moniker to the “Religious Right” when it became apparent that Muslims, Jews, and other religions opposed the secular society being expoused by the left. I use the left and right because that's how the American press categorizes them. For the most part organized religions encouraged their congregations to get out and vote for traditional family values (for lack of a better term).

We've all heard of the N.R.A. and the hold they have over American Politicians. I don't pretend to understand the strange American insistence on gun ownership. I see nothing wrong with owning a gun but I don't see it as an obligation or any big right. And yes, I've been extremely vocal in my opposition to Canada's gun laws. But that's because we're well on the way to blowing two billion dollars on a program that's a waste and a boondoggle.

Americans, though, see gun ownership as a birthright. Rightly or wrongly, and despite Sen. Kerry's well publicized hunting day, the Democrats are seen as anti-gun. It was funny, looking at coverage of the staged Kerry safari, watching his hunting partners carry the geese they shot while Kerry shied away. Kind of a mini-macho moment I suppose.

The gay lobby has, in my opinion, tried to stretch too far with the marriage issue. I am on record as opposing gay marriage but the issue here is why this contributed to the Kerry loss. You will note that 11 states had gay marriage on the ballot and all were defeated. While it's doubtful any of those states would have gone democratic, the initiatives were soundly defeated in all instances. Given that mindset, one wonders what would have happened in Ohio, where Bush narrowly won, had gay marriage not been an issue. Ohio would have given Kerry the win and I doubt Kerry would have lost any support should gay marriage not been on the agenda.

Watching the American Media Election Night was fun. Under the guise of caution, none of the networks would concede the President had pulled it out. For weeks the networks said a large turnout would favour Kerry. Strike one. All the pundits said the large number of first time voters and young people would tip the scales towards Kerry. Strike two. The unpopular war in Iraq was going to sink the President. Strike three. Game over.

Were Americans scared into voting for the President? I don't think so. I think they bought into the concept he is the best man, as commander in chief, to keep their country safe. Not that anyone is looking for an attack against their homeland. As for Iraq, the troops are there now. Kerry as President wouldn't get them home any sooner. With the army in the field this is not the time to change horses midstream.

On that note, I would remind Bush haters that during W.W.II, F.D.R. ran for a third term because America was at war. Well, America's at war again so who's to say President Bush won't claim the same precedent? I don't really think that will happen but I dearly love giving American bashers bad dreams for the next three years. Still, it could happen.

What's up with Dan Rather? Rather, you will remember, was caught using phoney records to smear President Bush and is still in trouble. As the election results rolled in Rather started using down home euphemisms to describe Kerry's plight. For a major news anchor, the performance was nothing short of unbelievable. Perhaps it was an attempt to gain back his plain-folk audience, which he lost over the Bush document affair. My considered advice to Rather is: “Daniel, my boy, that dog don't hunt”.

I don't think Kerry ever had a firm platform. He came up with a new policy at every turn especially early on in the campaign. His style was to get on his horse and gallop off in all directions. Don't like President Bush? Think President McGuinty! Feel better now?

A final note. Time magazine recently interviewed Osama Bin Laden's brother Yeslam. Amongst other problems with being Osama's brother in today's world, Yeslam Bin Laden bemoans the fact he has big problems making restaurant and airline reservations.

Go figure!

Angela goes crackers...

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homemade soup thing so I cracked open a couple cans of Campbell's. As I tossed in some pasta and grilled veggies making my own version of homemade soup, I felt more like a Julia Child type chef than a girl with a great can-opener.

The next day I took a big bowl of soup over to the Dude for lunch. After work I asked him how the soup was. “It was really good!” he said.

Even if it did come from a can,

he still liked my soup. For a moment I felt like I was the best can-opener owning chef in the world. Then before I knew it, the Dude, with one small sentence had trounced my good mood. I had instead become a part of the new seedy world of soup crime. “You know, it would have been even better if I had a couple crackers with it.”

Crackers...how could I have forgotten the crackers? Note to self...must remember...grocery list...more Campbell's soup and a box of crackers!