

# GRAPEVINE



## Free Litterbags

Mayor Rick Bonnette and councillors will be giving away free litterbags at Tim Horton's drive-thru windows in Acton and Georgetown. This is the third time that the Litter Free Halton Hills Task Force has organized a litterbag giveaway as a means of reducing litter on streets and rural roads

## Patching Wallace

Town workers were busy on Monday of this week patching up Wallace St. in Acton from McDonald Blvd. to Commerce Court. That section of Wallace was never meant to carry heavy traffic but being used as a truck detour while construction on Main St. continues.

## Limehouse Auction

The annual Limehouse Silent Auction and Corn/BBQ will be held on Saturday, Sept. 22 at Limehouse Memorial Hall from 4 - 7 p.m. Auction items include something for everyone thanks to our many donors in Limehouse, Acton, Georgetown and Milton. Eat, bid and be merry. All proceeds go to the hall.....serving the community since 1876.

## Race For the Hills

Race for the Hills – Halton Hills is taking place on Saturday, October 13 at the Gellert Community Centre in Georgetown at 9 a.m. There will be adult and family race challenges with refreshments and awards to follow. To register or for more information visit [www.haltonhills.ca](http://www.haltonhills.ca). Deadline for registrations is Monday, September 24.

## Quilters Celebrate 15

Halton Hills Quilters Guild will meet at Halton Hills Cultural Centre, 9 Church Street (at Main), Georgetown on Monday September 24 at 7:15 p.m. (Guild library at 7 p.m.) to celebrate their 15<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. New members are welcome. Contact: Ann Totten, President at 905-877-6038.

## Dementia Help

Acclaim Health Alzheimer Services is offering a free Dementia Information Series for Family Caregivers. Eight consecutive Tuesdays from Sept. 11 to Oct. 30, from 7 to 9 p.m. Held at Acclaim Health, Sheridan College, 1430 Trafalgar Rd. (use Ceremonial Drive entrance) Oakville. To register, call 905-847-9559 or toll free 1-800-387-7127.

## Entrepreneur Seminar

Halton Hills Public Library, in partnership with Halton Region's Business Development Centre, is offering a new seminar series geared to entrepreneurs who want to start their business right. The series will be held at the Georgetown Branch from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., and begins with "Starting a Small Business" on September 26. There are six seminars in all. For more information, visit the Library's website at [www.library.hhpl.on.ca](http://www.library.hhpl.on.ca) Registration fee is \$20 per seminar. To register, contact 1-866-4HALTON or [busdev@halton.ca](mailto:busdev@halton.ca)

## Parents' Evening

Parents of students attending MSB, Robert Little and Acton H.S. are invited to attend a Parents' evening featuring award-winning motivational speaker, Jim Jordan, to be hosted by Acton H.S. Wednesday, September 26 from 7 to 8 p.m. The presentation will follow an in-school assembly for students, and parents can play in maintaining a safe and respectful community. All welcome.

**Editor's note:** Grapevine is not a free advertising column. Community groups and non-profit organizations are welcome to send or phone in submissions. However, the best way to ensure your message is published is to use the advertising columns.

The editor reserves the right to edit and limit submissions at his discretion.

# Biofuels not necessarily green

Earlier this year, when I crossed our great country to talk to Canadians about environmental issues, some media pundits took issue with our vehicle of choice – a diesel bus. Even when I explained that diesel actually has a lower carbon footprint than gasoline, some of them immediately shot back with – then why isn't it biodiesel?

In truth, we had actually wanted to showcase an alternative fuel like biodiesel, we just couldn't find a leasing agent who could get us an appropriate vehicle. But from the very beginning we were also nervous about highlighting something that might be more of a problem than a solution.

Turns out, we were probably right. According to a recent analysis published in the journal *Science*, attempting to save the planet by wholesale switching to biofuels like ethanol and biodiesel may unintentionally have the opposite effect.

Proponents of biofuels, which are often made from plants such as corn or sugar cane, often point to their many advantages over fossil fuels like gasoline. Biofuels are less toxic or non-toxic in comparison to fossil fuels. They are a renewable resource, whereas once fossil fuels are gone, they're gone. And biofuels can be grown just about anywhere you can grow crops, reducing the need for giant pipelines or oil tankers, and potentially helping to reduce conflicts in areas like the Middle East.

So far so good. But things start to get complicated when you look more closely. Much has already been debated about the energy requirements to produce some biofuels, especially corn-based ethanol. Ethanol made from corn only contains marginally more energy than what is needed to produce it. In fact, we use about a litre's worth of fossil fuels to grow, harvest, process, and transport a litre of corn-based ethanol. Many people argue that making corn-based ethanol is more of an agricultural subsidy for farmers than it is a sound environmental policy.

Things get even dodgier for biofuels when you look at the land area that would be needed to grow fuel crops. We use a lot of fossil fuels.

## Science Matters

By David Suzuki



Switching to biofuels would not reduce the demand for fuel, just change the way we get it. And that would require a lot of land. In fact, substituting just 10 per cent of fossil fuels to biofuels for all our vehicles would require about 40 per cent of the entire cropland in Europe and North America. That is simply not sustainable.

Of course, reducing the amount of fuel we use, no matter what the type, is very important. But the authors of the recent article in *Science* say that if our primary motive in switching to biofuels is to reduce global warming, then we have to look at all our options for the land that would be needed to grow fuel crops.

The authors conclude: "If the prime object of policy on biofuels is mitigation of carbon dioxide-driven global warming, policy-makers may be better advised in the short term (30 years or so) to focus on increasing the efficiency of fossil fuel use, to conserve the existing forests and savannahs, and to restore natural forest and grassland habitats on cropland that is not needed for food."

In other words, biofuels alone are not the quick-fix answer to global warming. In fact, strong legislated

policies to improve the efficiency of our cars, homes and industries is a much more effective strategy. In the longer term, biofuels may certainly play an important role. Some technologies, like cellulosic ethanol, which is made from woody debris, are very promising and they need to be supported by government and industry now, so they can be available on



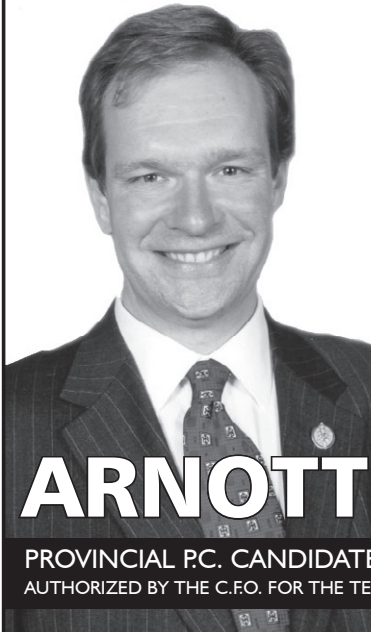
*It is with great pleasure that Ray and Davida Ingleson of Rockwood announce the marriage of their daughter Kristina to Kevein Crosgrey, son of Helen and the late Charles Crosgrey of Brampton.*

*The wedding will take place at sea on Tuesday, October 16, 2007 at 3:30pm in the chapel aboard the Caribbean Princess. After returning from their honeymoon cruise a reception and dinner will be held in their honour.*

*Love and Congratulations  
Mom and Dad*



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**WELLINGTON CAMPAIGN OFFICE:**  
723 St. Andrew Street West  
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Fergus

**Official Opening Friday, Sept. 14th  
5:00 - 7:00 PM**

**HALTON HILLS CAMPAIGN OFFICE:**  
48 Main Street South  
Georgetown

**Official Opening Saturday, Sept. 15th  
9:00 - 11:00 AM**

For more information call:  
1-866-788-1688

Everyone Welcome - Please Join Us



# What's Your Beef?



Put it in a letter