

GRAPEVINE



Bountiful gardens

Tuitman's Garden Centre will help feed the hungry by offering a discount to customers who donate a non-perishable item of food to FoodShare.

Beginning Saturday, and on the third Saturday of each month during the growing season, a 10 per cent discount will apply to the purchase of annuals, perennials, seeds, and bulbs.

"When I read that there was a food drive for FoodShare I thought I wanted to help and this would be one way to do it," Tuitman's owner James Wegenast said.

Murr tourney

There is still time to sign up for the 26th annual Paul Murr Memorial Golf Tournament on May 11 at Acton's Blue Springs Golf Club. The popular event has been a major fundraiser for the Acton Branch of the Canadian Cancer Society - raising more than \$75,000 over the past 25 years. This year, some of the proceeds will be donated to CASHh (Cancer Assistance Services of Halton Hills).

Players can choose from three different golfing options. For details, call John McNabb at 519-853-5615.

BackPack help

A new program to ensure that local schoolchildren have all that they need in the way of school supplies kicks off April 27 at Acton High School.

The program will supply backpacks and school supplies to elementary school children from low-income families. Run by high school student volunteers, the program will teach high school students how to successfully run a new program with the help of mentors, learning how to market, fundraise and budget.

Links2Care is accepting donations of new backpacks and new school supplies at Links2Care locations. Cash donations and gift cards for local stores would also be appreciated. Items needed include backpacks, scissors, pencils, erasers, rulers, pencil cases, pencil crayons, highlighters, blue pens, red pens, calculators, protractors, lined paper and indoor shoes.

Application forms for the backpack program are available at the Acton and Georgetown Links2Care locations, elementary schools, as well as the local food banks. Completed applications can be returned to any Links2Care location. For more information call Cathy Gerrow at 519-853-3310, ext. 223.

Spring bazaar

A penny table, Granny's attic, plants, lunch, baking and books will be for sale, at great prices, at the annual Spring Bazaar at the Acton Seniors Centre on May 8. The sale runs from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Student excellence

Congrats to Acton's Joshua Beaune, a Grade 8 student at St. Joseph Catholic School, and Limehouse's Rose Schmidt of Christ the King School, both who have been selected to receive Student Awards of Excellence from the Halton Catholic School Board.

Each year the Board selects one student from each of its schools to receive a "Sharing The Spirit" Student Award of Excellence for demonstrating outstanding qualities in the following areas: Catholic leadership, family commitment, involvement in school affairs, involvement in community activities and dedication to a difficult situation or task.

The ceremony takes place at Christ the King on April 26.

CD release

The launch of a CD to benefit Acton's FoodShare food bank takes place on Saturday at Roxy Music on Mill Street. The CD, a compilation of songs from local artists, is titled Songs for Supper. The selection of artists will perform their songs at the concert - admission is \$5 and a non-perishable food item.

Proceeds from the sale of the CD will benefit FoodShare, which is looking for local businesses and stores to stock and sell the CD on behalf of FoodShare. For details call Tim at 905-702-7470 or leave an e-mail at www.actonfoodshare.com

Back to Basics

The focus will be on the environment at a "Back to Basics" workshop on Saturday at the Limehouse Memorial Hall. Presented by the Silver-Wood Women's Institute, the morning features Wally Secombe, a professor and founding member of Everdale Organic Farm and Environmental Learning Centre who will talk about how shopping locally is a wiser choice.

In the afternoon, speaker Joan Joyner, a RN and public health nurse, will present "Children's Health and the Environment" focusing on risk, toxicity and exposure to everyday products in the home and suggestions for alternatives.

For details call Shirley at 519-853-2604.

Service Canada

Service Canada officials (who recently closed their Acton office) will be at the Acton arena/community centre on April 21 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. to help people with issues relating to the Canada Pension Plan, Old Age Security and Social Insurance Numbers.

Officials will review and accept CPP and OAS applications, photocopy and certify original documents, answer questions and process new SIN number applications.



HOME AGAIN: A Bell upright grand piano built in 1892 was returned to its first home in the Town Hall centre last week. On hand to welcome the beautifully carved piano were Town Hall centre members George Elliott and Bill Sanford. - Submitted photo

No tiger in his tank

The Master's Golf Tournament last weekend was watched by many people who normally would rather have a root canal than watch golf on T.V. The big draw, or course, was the much anticipated return to competition by Tiger Woods since his infidelities were exposed last fall.

If you were on Mars and missed all the fireworks, Tiger's wife became upset when she learned of his dalliances and took a nine iron to his head when he tried to escape her wrath and crashed his car in the process.

There are three lessons to be learned here. Lesson one; Don't hire a golfer as a getaway driver, if planning a bank heist. Lesson two; Golfers shouldn't fool around if married to a Swede. Irish women, for instance, would be satisfied with taking all the money. Lesson three; Tiger should be thankful she didn't use a wedge, and take a huge divot, on a different part of his anatomy. But I digress.

Tiger showed up in Georgia last week and held yet another presser. He appeared upbeat about his game and suitably chagrined regarding his past tom-cattling. All in all it was much ado about nothing. The reporters, most of them sports writers, many of them acquaintances who rely on Woods for stories, danced around the cheating issue with the grace of a hippo on ice skates.

One has to remember that this is Augusta and had any reporter been impertinent enough to press the golfer on sexual issues their credentials would have been yanked faster than you can say Billy-Bob. If the Masters is hallowed ground for

The Way I See It

with
Mike O'Leary



golfers, Tiger Woods is the high priest. He brings the sacraments in the form of T.V. ratings which translates directly into cash for all the good old boys.

I am a golf fanatic. I took up the game when I was a caddie at Islington Golf Course more than 50 years ago. As an aside, I mourn the lack of caddies available today. As a kid, caddying not only gave me my first job but also exposed me to a game I have loved, but never mastered, all those years ago.

Once I became an "A" caddie I carried the bag for regular members and would often travel with them to amateur tournaments around Toronto. The pay was \$3 for a regular round, \$5.00 if you found all the lost balls. Tournaments often paid \$10.00. The added bonus was that my regular golfers would let me use their clubs on caddie's day when we got to play the course. I still love that course.

Meanwhile, back at the Masters, T. Woods et al were playing for big bucks. The leader changed daily with 50-year-old Fred Couples and geriatric darling Tom Watson holding up the side for the geezer brigade. Actually Watson played great and Fred Couples was in the hunt to the end.

Me, and every other golfer on the downside of the age bell curve, were cheering Couples on. We all were praying that Couples would pull off a miracle just as

most of us pray we will again break 90 on a championship calibre course. In the end, we all have to be satisfied with memories of putts that lipped out and birdies that never return from winter migration.

Tiger showed many signs of past brilliance. Some of the shots he made were truly spectacular. Others were worthy of a Saturday duffer, especially some of his putts. His famous temper was kept under control most of the time. There were a few cases where he lost it and the old Tiger roared. It's comforting to realize that he yells "Tiger" with the same tone of frustration as I yell "Michael" when I hit a boneheaded shot. I tend to yell more of course.

In the end Tiger finished fourth, not his worst finish at the Masters, not chopped liver either. Methinks his expectations were a tad high. That he could come back after a 5 month absence, with the distractions he's had, the business crises he's had to work through, and still expect to win is, to my mind, unrealistic. But then you may have noticed that your faithful scribbler is not a famous billionaire golfer. Perhaps attitude has been my problem all along.

Lefty Phil Mickelson was the eventual winner. Mickelson is a crowd favourite with his regular smiles and the time he spends signing autographs for fans. There was an especially tender moment when, after he had won, he embraced his wife who is recovering from breast cancer. That was real emotion and realization that cancer is serious and golf is but a game. Tiger too is learning that lesson.

He's got a ways to go yet.