

Earth Hour sparks light in Toronto

KATIE O'CONNOR

COMMUNITY NEWS

Last Saturday, hundreds gathered to celebrate the third annual Earth Hour in Toronto's Yonge and Dundas Square.

The festivities began at 5:30 p.m., as the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) volunteers, street artists, performers, and dancers scattered throughout the square in hopes of attracting passerbys to the event.

One WWF volunteer, Sabrina, expressed her reasoning for becoming involved with WWF's Earth Hour.

"I'm a volunteer for WWF, I climb the CN Tower every year, I am an avid animal lover, I recycle and I just love the environment."

She went on to say what she believes Toronto is hoping to achieve from Earth Hour.

"I hope this influences people to make simple and more environmentally friendly changes in their everyday life."

Her partner Bobby was another volunteer for WWF. He explained why he was taking part in Earth Hour.

"I want to help people in Toronto and the world learn to reduce their carbon footprint."

Breakfast Television's Kevin Frankish and Dina Pugliese hosted the night. Toronto Mayor David Miller and Gerald Butts, president and CEO of WWF Canada, made wonderfully in-



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spiring speeches about how Earth Hour will make a huge impact on our world's climate crisis and what can do in our daily lives to help sustain the environment.

Just before 8:30 p.m. rolled around, the crowd had already witnessed a magician named 'Truly Odd' shove a balloon up his nose and rocked out to the Philosopher Kings' Jarvis Church. When the lights went out Chantal Kreviazuk graced the stage with a beautiful song about wishing for a peaceful environment.

According to the Toronto Hydro Company, it was announced Sunday that there was only a 10 per cent power drop in the city, compared to last year's 15 per cent.

A mother of two from Toronto, Marty, was part of the huge and wonderful crowd that night.

"I came out with my kids tonight because we love the earth and we strongly believe that Earth Hour does make a difference for our world."



WWF volunteer Kelly posed in front of a "Wishing Tree," where people could make a wish for our world and place it on a tree.



Street performer 'standing tall for Earth Hour'.



Toronto Mayor David Miller giving an inspiring speech on what we can do to sustain our environment.

Community Calendar

Your weekly preview of local events



All About Pets show

Canada's largest pet show will be held from April 2 and 3, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and April 4, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at International Centre, 6900 Airport Rd. in Mississauga. Events include a pet fashion show, flyball (described as drag racing for dogs) as well

as a parade of breeds. Tickets cost \$12 for adults and \$8 for youths (kids 5 and under are free). For more information visit www.allaboutpetsshows.com.

Easter Egg Extravaganza

Visit Mountsberg Conservation Area this Easter weekend and take part in a number of activities for kids and adults alike, including a giant Easter egg hunt. From 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Friday, April 2 to Sunday, April 4 at Mountsberg, 2259 Milborough Line, Campbellville. Admission is

\$6.50 for adults and \$4.50 for kids (children under 4 are free). For more information call 519-854-2276 or visit www.conservationhalton.ca.

Sp'Eggtacular Easter event

This Easter, kids can meet the Easter Bunny as well as participate in a traditional egg hunt in Ireland House at Oakridge Farm, 2168 Guelph Line in Burlington, on Sat. April 3 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. A live show, heritage cooking demonstrations, crafts and games will also be available. Admission is \$5. For more information, contact

Sylvia Hentz, 905-332-9888, or visit www.museumsofburlington.com.

Meet the Author

Catherine Gildiner, Canadian author of *After the Falls* will be speaking Wednesday April 7 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Burlington Public Library, 2331 New St. Gildiner will also be available for book signings. Admission is free, however, seating is limited so registration is recommended. For more information, call 905-639-3611, extension 134, or visit www.bpl.on.

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