

Independent Shorts

• On Thursday night, late night host Conan O'Brien became the first major American TV personality to film an episode in Cuba in over 50 years. O'Brien was recently in the Caribbean country which, under President Obama is experiencing normalized relations with the United States for the first time since Fidel Castro rose to power. Video clips from the episode in which O'Brien exhibits his very limited Spanish, learns to Rumba, and visits the Havana Club Rum Museum can be found on the Team CoCo YouTube Channel.

• The St. Marys Community Players' Improv Show continues tonight and tomorrow night, beginning at 8:00 pm at the Town Hall theatre. Come by for a night of laughs and audience participation. Tickets are \$10 and available online (StMarysCommunityPlayers.ca) or at the door. Doors open at 7:30 pm and the show runs until 10:30 pm.

• Coming to theatres this weekend are the films *Unfinished Business*, starring Vince Vaughn and Dave Franco, *The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*, starring Judi Dench and Maggie Smith, and *Chappie*, directed by Neill Blomkamp and starring Hugh Jackman, Sigourney Weaver and Dev Patel (who will have a big weekend, as he also appears in *The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*).

BUSINESS OF THE WEEK

Medinasoft

Medinasoft was formed in 2003 to service the growing need for water treatment in the area. Our goals are to give fast, personable service and to deliver a professional, custom "made for your needs" product to address your individual water issues.

Medinasoft sells or rents water softeners, drinking water systems, ultraviolet water sterilizers, reverse osmosis systems and filters. You can say 'good-bye' to iron stains, sulphur (rotton egg smell), turbidity (water cloudiness), tannins (organic matter), bacteria, and unpleasant tasting water. You can have peace of mind when using your water.

As a licensed plumber with twenty-one years

in the water treatment industry, I do all installs and service. We carefully assess each situation; conduct water tests to determine water hardness, iron content, PH and total dissolved solid levels. We will then advise you how best to address your specific concerns. We never assume your water is the same as your neighbours.

We understand it is important to find the most cost efficient solution to your needs and the products we use enable us to achieve this goal while giving you outstanding value and performance. We have no salesman to pay. You will find we are very competitively priced.

We offer service to all makes of water treatment,



whether it's commercial, residential or agricultural. We have quality softeners and chemical free iron filters from Waterite. We also offer point of use cooler systems for commercial applications (no jugs to lug) and custom designed equipment to

suit your individual water treatment needs. Your satisfaction is our best advertisement. We invite you to call Medinasoft if you have any questions or concerns about your water, or if your present equipment is not performing to your expectations.



Tree Tips: Properly Felling A Tree

vegetation and it is sometimes easier to see around the job site.

However, there are many dangers which always present when dealing with a falling tree. Unfortunately, there are many accidents each year, as a result of these dangers. So let us look at some basic practices that can reduce the danger to yourself and others who are working with you.

When felling a tree it is important to carefully access the tree, to determine which direction it will fall. It is also extremely important to make sure it is not attached to other trees, and that the branches

are not tangled through another tree. All these things can influence the dynamics of the tree, causing it to go the wrong way, or to hit you on the way down.

The tree should then be accessed for rot, if the base is rotten, the tree will quickly go the way it is leaning, in spite of the influence of a notch. This can surprise you and cause serious injury. Before beginning your cut, the next step is to clear two exit routes at 45 degree angles, away from the back of the tree. Only after this is completed do you begin to cut the notch, then when it is safe to do so finish with

your back cut. If there is any doubt about where the tree will go, call in a professional.

If you have a question, you can email me at jtsquote@gmail.com, and I will respond either by email or in a future article. If you would like me to come and assess one of your trees, you can call me at 519-272-5742.

Joel Hackett is a Certified Arborist Residing in the St Mary's Area. Spending most of the year running Joel's Tree Service, he also teaches Arboriculture during the winter at Lambton College.

Joel Hackett does not assume any liability for any information in this article.



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by Cheryl Bage

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18 A

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