

Drunk driver found guilty in fatal crash

The 22-year-old Mississauga man who drunkenly crashed his friend's car, killing him, paralyzing an 18-year-old woman and injuring three others before fleeing the Acton accident scene, was found guilty of 14 charges by a jury in a Milton court on December 28. Todd McGowan remains in custody and will be sentenced on March 16.

McGowan – who was driving his friend, Jeffrey Sandles' Hyundai because Sandles, 22, was westbound on Queen Street just before 3 a.m., on April 3, 2010, when he failed to make the curve and hit a tree on the front lawn of a house. The six people in the car, three men and three women, were on their way to look at a million dollar house when the accident occurred.

McGowan fled the scene as his friend lay dying in the wreckage, and was arrested on the

street the next morning. An 18-year-old female from Georgetown was paralysed in the crash, and two other females suffered non-life threatening injuries. Another male passenger, who suffered minor injuries, also fled before police arrived and was arrested in Mississauga the next day.

Following a jury trail, McGowan was convicted of impaired driving causing death, four counts of impaired driving causing bodily harm, dangerous driving causing death, four counts of dangerous driving causing injury, fail to remain in connection with the death, and three counts of fail to remain causing bodily harm.

The court did not proceed with additional charges against McGowan including three counts of failing to comply with a probation order, possession of a controlled substance and fail to stop.



DRIVER FOUND GUILTY: The 22-year-old impaired Mississauga man who crashed this car in Acton – killing the owner – was found guilty of 14 counts in a Milton court on December 28. Todd McGowan will be sentenced on March 16 in connection with the April 3, 2010 crash at the Young-Guelph Street curve. – *Tanner file photo*

HALTON HILLS SENIORS RECREATION CENTRES ACTON



We are all looking forward to enjoying the first social dinner of the year. We will be enjoying Swiss Chalet chicken with baked potatoes and apple blossoms topped with ice cream to follow. There will be lots of door prizes and a 50/50 draw, plus someone will be the lucky winner of the beautiful painting by Maria Sallay. Juke Box will be providing the 60's and Bee Gees music.

We have several programs offered on the next three Tuesdays. The next Tuesday movie will be shown on January 31 at 1 p.m. The movie will be

The Help. A movie based on a best selling novel. It has had excellent reviews.

On Tuesday, January 10 at 10 a.m., there will be a physio workshop. Come out and discover if physio might help you.

On Tuesday, January 17 we will be celebrating the birthdays of members born in either December or January. You should receive a phone call inviting you and a guest.

For pure fun and enjoyment, there is a trip planned on February 16 to Medieval Times in Toronto where you will be taken back in time to the knights jousting

and courtesans cheering them on, as you enjoy a venerable feast.

In March we will be returning to Mohawk to enjoy the Dinner Theatre. It is always a treat to climb on the Tyler bus and drive down to Mohawk. For those who like a little flutter, there is time between enjoying the meal and the show starting to pop downstairs and try Lady Luck.

The Acton Seniors enjoy a day out visiting the casinos. Not only do we visit Rama once a month, but are also visiting Georgian Downs on January 16 and Brantford

Casino on February 15. Don't be discouraged if you see the list is full; add your name to the waiting list. Openings often become available due to unexpected circumstances.

Line dancing has started at the Acton Seniors Centre. If you would like to learn some new steps, or are looking for fun and exercise please sign up. Pauline Barlow will be the instructor on Thursday afternoons at 2:30 p.m. By gosh the price is right, \$1 for members and guests are \$3. Come out and join them.

Once Wendy Krever finds out what people are looking for in the computer courses, she will hire an appropriate instructor. If you are hoping to expand your skills, please add your name to the list, and make sure you write what your expectations are in the way of instruction.

How did Stratford become a world class arts centre?

Find out at Cultural Symposium

The keynote speaker for the January 20/21st Halton Hills Cultural Symposium (HHCS) is David Prosser, Director of Communications at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival.

As an accomplished international speaker, Prosser will inspire participants to dream big about Halton Hills' future by describing the long and challenging

transformation of Stratford from coal train hub to world class arts centre. He will describe how individual community leaders can join together around a common vision and make dreams come true.

In addition to Prosser, the agenda includes:

- Lots of time to meet, catch up and share experiences with others working or volunteering within Halton Hills arts, culture and heritage.
- An exciting demo of the My Halton Hills

community website we are building and how it will benefit your group/business

- A chance to shape our community's future by giving your input into the Halton Hills Sustainability Project
- A behind-the-scenes tour of all that the new Acton Library has to offer, and
- Three use-it-now learning sessions on how to engage, energize and keep intergenerational volunteers; how to understand and use

the Celtic Wheel of Leadership to maximize the effectiveness of project groups, boards and teams, and how to write successful grant applications.

You can register online at www.haltonhills.ca/theatre or call Beatrice at 416-575-1232.

Registration for the Friday evening/Saturday event is \$35 for the first individual and \$25 for a second, so consider bringing a friend so they can get inspired too. Youth under 18 are free.

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