

# Gr. 12 GDHS student is runner-up in Alice Munro short story writing contest

A Grade 12 Georgetown District High School student finished as runner-up in a short-story-writing contest held in the name of a Canadian Nobel Peace Prize-winning author.

Seventeen-year-old Dana Mitchell's 800-word submission entitled *In Facing the Sun* was one of five prize winners to advance to the final round of judging out of dozens of entries from across North America in the Teen category (age 13-19 yrs.) of the Alice Munro Short Story Writing Contest.

Mitchell's story involves an elderly Holocaust survivor and a young male tattoo artist.

"The woman has six numbers on her arm (from a concentration camp) and she asks



**DANA MITCHELL**

him to make them beautiful, so he colours in between the numbers to make them look like sunflowers," Mitchell said.

"I really like (Munro's) work, but I just entered the story by

chance. I'd just finished writing it and figured it was the right time and thought, why not?"

Mitchell received her award and a \$300 bursary while participating in the annual Alice Munro Writers & Readers Festival held over a weekend recently in Winham, Ont.

Unfortunately, Munro wasn't able to attend her festival due to illness, but sent a videotaped message that was played for the contest's top finishers.

As well, on the same day she entered the Munro contest, Mitchell sent in the same short story for a Halton Hills Public Library competition for high school students and was named the overall winner.



## Acton's Citizen of the Year

Acton Rotary Club president Bill Sanford presented Acton Citizen of the Year Ron Birrell with the large plaque. Birrell was feted Friday night at the Acton Town Hall Centre—the building he helped to restore to grandeur. See a photo gallery of the event at [www.theifp.ca/photos](http://www.theifp.ca/photos)

*Photo by Ted Brown*



Halton Hills Public Library handed out awards for its annual juried summer writing contest - The Ink Writing Project; sponsored by the Friends of the Halton Hills Public Library. This was the fifth year for the program with a record number of entries- close to 100! Winners in the Inksters category (Grades 4-8) were from left; Hannah Robinson (Poetry; Grades 7-8); Emily Wood (Short Story; Grades 4-6; tied); Allison Andreatta (Poetry; Grades 4-6); Ella Jackson-Brown (Short Story; Grades 4-6; tied); Meghan Stewart (Short Story; Grades 7-8); Hannah Wong-Duerden (Illustrated Fiction; Grades 4-6; tied); and Olivia Reich (Illustrated Fiction; Grades 4-6 tied).



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## At the library



Summer Reading Club winners from the Acton Branch of Halton Hills Public Library received their \$25 prizes from TD Bank manager customer service Joanne Earden. Recipients included (from left) Thomas Holmes, Katie Hoffmann, Amaryn Van Donkersgoed, Philisa Jean, Bradyn Tonelli and Kieran Kapparis.

*Photo by Ted Brown*



Teresa Rigg, (left) was the lucky winner of a gift basket, a prize in the adult summer reading club at Georgetown Branch of Halton Hills Public Library. Douglas Davies of the library presented the basket.

*Photo by Ted Brown*



Connor Tomaszewski was the recipient of a \$50 Indigo gift card as his name was drawn for the prize in the adult summer reading club at Georgetown Branch of Halton Hills Public Library. Douglas Davies of the library presented the prize.

*Photo by Ted Brown*



Winners in the Halton Hills Public Library Summer Reading Club (Georgetown Branch) gathered at the library to receive their prizes, a \$25 gift from TD Bank. On hand to receive their prizes were (from left) Ally Tomaszewski, Connor Hulme, Sydney Durigon, TD Bank Manager Brenda Dawicki, Sierra Roy and Ellie Kotsos.

*Photo by Ted Brown*