

Come to the  
**ACTON FAIR**  
PROSPECT PARK ACTON  
**SEPTEMBER 18, 19, 20**  
FUN FOR EVERYONE

## Fifty disabled using ActiVan

The brown, yellow and orange van with ActiVan in big letters on the side has become a familiar sight since it appeared for the first time May 1.

The van transports the disabled all around town, from Monday to Friday and is being used more than anticipated. Every day the van is out at the disposal of 50 registered users.

Tracey Tyler of Tyler Transport Ltd., which won the contract to operate the service, says 75 per cent of the calls are for medical appointments, with the balance for shopping trips or visiting. The users come from all parts of town, with 27 from Georgetown, 17 from Acton and six from Esquesing. During May, the first month of operation there were 47 passenger trips. In June the number climbed to 184, and in July jumped to 287, as word of the van spread.

Ted Ballinger, secretary of the ActiVan Advisory Committee told of some heartwarming stories of people who have been out of the house for the first time in years.

"They really appreciate it," he commented. Tyler explained any one of the people registered can phone for a reservation up until 4 p.m. the day before they need the van, but can also reserve as early as a week ahead.

The van can handle four wheelchairs and six other passengers. A lift picks the wheelchair up into

the van. For users not in a wheelchair, but who may need help, a friend can accompany them. The friend as well as the user pays 50 cents for a one way trip.

Since the van covers the whole of Halton Hills, it could be possible to travel all the way from Crogson's Corners to Norval for 50 cents.

The transit service is operating only on a trial basis until April 30, 1982, when it will be reviewed.

Tyler Transport Ltd. is paid \$18.25 per operational hour and \$13.70 standby to run the service. The cost is subsidized 50 per cent by the Ministry of Transportation and Communications. The \$27,000 van itself, was paid half by the province and the other half by a gift from Levi-Strauss Ltd., employees.

The total to be raised by donations to keep the van operating until April, 1982, is \$18,000. At present \$7,000 has come from donations and the revenue from the passengers.

The ActiVan Advisory Committee secretary says the fund-raising will start as soon as summer vacation time is over and hopes local groups and individuals will help support it.

The committee is pleased with the success of the van service, but Ballinger says it is too early to make a judgment. Near the end of the trial period the committee will make a recommendation to council about the transit service.



Buckle up now everyone. Mary Daigle and Shirley Krantz, of the Friends-in-Deed handicap group take full advantage of the ActiVan. Driver Ken Budd of Tyler Transport helps the riders do up their seatbelts.

# The Acton Free Press



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They're off and Acton's Terry Fox Run is underway Sunday.

## Terry's dream alive here

Acton picked up Terry's fallen torch and successfully continued the Marathon of Hope Sunday.

The 208 runners, walkers and bicyclists turned in pledge sheets totalling \$10,655.

Some participants didn't turn in their sheets Sunday and some promised donations are still to come in so organizers expect the final tally will easily top \$11,000. The goal was \$7,000.

"Just amazing. Just without words to describe it," was the end of the day reaction of chief organizer of Acton's Terry Fox Run, Gord Auty. From shortly after 8 a.m. when Mayor Peter Pomeroy started the runners until nearly 5 p.m. the track at Acton High School was crowded with people going around and around.

The organizers had plenty of help from volunteers who accepted entry forms and pledge sheets and kept count of the entrants' laps. Some helped out after they completed their runs.

The participants ranged in age from almost pre-school to 80. Fathers and mothers holding hands with their young children as they went around the track was common.

Despite the heat, which didn't make the task any easier, spirits were high throughout the day and there was a real camaraderie among the participants and volunteers, helpers. Everyone

shared a common mission, to keep Terry's dream alive.

"We didn't expect this kind of response," Auty declared.

He noted they expected more runners based on the fact over 500 pledge sheets were distributed.

They didn't count on so many people arriving with not one or two full sheets of pledges but three or four. Some youngsters started filling up the back of the pledge forms with backers names and donations.

Participants have just one more job to perform, collect all their pledges and turn them in at the Bank of Montreal for account number 5056-850. And of course people can still make donations by dropping by the Bank of Montreal.

There were many touching stories and scenes during the day.

Lorne Doberthien, who lost a leg to the same kind of cancer which killed Terry Fox circled the track on his bike.

Some children set up a Kool-Aid stand and raised \$12.15 for the Marathon of Hope.

An 80-year-old man jogged and walked the track seven laps and made a donation.

William Near, 67, walked one lap and made a donation of \$25.

Another Fox Run at Nor-Halton Park raised

\$155 for the Acton campaign.

Numerous families showed up with no pledge sheets, they simply made a donation, \$25 was common, and walked as a group.

A Guelph man came down to run and brought pledge sheets totalling \$1,100. He was a real runner completing the 25 laps in about 40 minutes.

Children brought in pledge sheets with amazing totals, like Tim Height's \$600.

Pat Garton, started off carrying her two children in sacks on her front and back and later put the toddlers in a stroller as she completed the 25 laps.

The Johnston family, a father, two daughters, ran with pledges totalling \$442.50.

Auty figures children were really "hustling" signing up pledges the last few days after they got back to school.

"The kids did a super job. And not just the kids, but the parents too," Auty declared.

He said he was afraid he'd wake up and discover the huge success of Acton's Terry Fox Run was just a dream.

And the committee figures they learned a lot to make next year's Terry Fox Run even more fun and a greater success. One idea is to make it a family picnic outing day.

## Strike was looming

# Tannery workers ratify new contract

For a time last week it looked like Beardmore workers would be going on strike but it now appears an agreement for a new two year deal has been reached between the tannery and Local P479 of the Canadian Food and Allied Workers.

At press time there was still a question if a second department by department in-plant ratification vote on Friday that passed by just five ballots was legal.

Eddie Allen, vice-president of the union local, said a meeting was being held last night (Tuesday) to elect a new executive after five members, who were also the bargaining committee, resigned Friday afternoon and also to determine with officials of the union head office if the second vote was legal.

Mrs. Allen, recalling last week's chain of events, said the new deal calls for a 75 cent an hour raise this year and 70 cents an hour more next year plus a half-a-cent per category increase.

Beardmore spokesman Donald Rankin said as far as the company is concerned they have an agreement, one which he described as the best contract this year in the tannery industry. He says the total package calls for \$1.51 increase over two years plus improved benefits.

The bargaining committee recommended acceptance of the deal at a membership meeting Wednesday night, but by a 151 to 101 vote margin the workers rejected the offer and opted to strike.

In the second vote Friday, workers accepted the deal 156 to 151; 45 more workers voted Friday.

Mrs. Allen, the only member of the old executive who didn't quit, said president Bill Spielvogel and other members of the executive and bargaining committee Paul Cripps, Ed Parent, John Dennis and Jack Cunningham all resigned effective Friday at 4.30 p.m. Spielvogel declined to comment on the situation.

She said the union had been seeking a \$1 a year hike for each of the two years and originally the bargaining committee urged workers not accept anything less.

There was no change in the company's offer between Wednesday and Friday.

The average wage at the tannery before this agreement is in category 14, \$6.85.

Workers had been without a new contract since July 18.

## Date not set yet for hotel fire trial

Unless a special assize is granted by the Chief Justice for the Supreme Court of Ontario the second degree murder trial of Cosimo Mercuri, Mike McCristal and Leonard Cripps will not be held until the spring.

Crown Attorney Paul Stunt explained that because the trial is expected to take so long, the crown has asked that a special trial be held this fall, rather than waiting until for the regular trial date in March.

Stunt and colleague John Ayre in November will ask the Chief Justice for the special assize.

Mercuri, Cripps and McCristal are charged in connection with the death of a Dominion Hotel resident, Thomas Gibbons, after fire completely destroyed the historical landmark in August 1979.



Even the young clowns like Kenneth Phillip at the Acton Legion family picnic enjoyed the pony rides. For more on Sunday afternoon's great program turn to page 5.

## Mosquitos nuisance, encephalitis carriers

# Whiting will push for spraying in Acton

Armed with a preliminary report which shows mosquitoes are a problem in Acton and area, Councillor Dave Whiting plans to push hard for either a region or Halton Hills spraying program here next summer.

A Halton Health Unit report says "there is and always has been a serious nuisance mosquito problem in the Acton area. That is to say that most of the mosquitoes found in the area are of the man biting variety. The culex species of mosquito associated with Eastern Equine Encephalitis or St. Louis Encephalitis is also found in this area."

Last year a 700 signature petition from Acton was taken to Halton Hills council calling for a mosquito spraying program. Councillors said they would consider it for the 1981 budget.

Money for a spraying program was included in the budget and then chopped out.

There was talk of another protest from Acton after the dropping of the mosquito spraying program came to light in late spring, but other than frequent grumbles heard around town, nothing materialized.

However, Whiting took the matter up with region Medical Officer of Health Dr. Peter Cole and a monitoring program was started.

The region report is only partially completed. Data comparing Acton's mosquito problem with

other areas of Ontario has been requested from the University of Guelph.

Whiting notes the report makes it clear mosquitoes are a nuisance factor here. In his conversations with Dr. Cole it has been established that mosquitoes as a nuisance can be considered a health problem.

It is fortunate that there isn't a large population of the mosquitoes which carry encephalitis. Encephalitis has broken out in Manitoba and a few years back there was a rash of cases in Ontario which prompted spraying in Halton Hills in 1976.

In view of the fact the report says there is "always" a serious mosquito problem here, Whiting says he'll push for a spraying program next spring. He says the region or town can tackle the project or the region, town and province can join forces.

During the summer the region has been conducting

### inside

An R.R. 2 Acton farmer has been selected the Georgetown Jaycoes Young Farmer of the Year. Details on page 6.

Julian Reed is coming to the councillor's drop-in to hear the voice of the people of Acton. More on page 2.

ing a survey "in order to establish what type of program we might consider" the report says.

Several surveillance sites were selected, including three "oviposition pools", larval checks at Beardmore, a home in Lakeview subdivision and land beside Highway 25.

The Public Health Inspector who wrote the report stated "I have also talked to some Acton residents and have no doubt a serious nuisance problem does exist."

He said "it is not possible to compare the present mosquito population in Acton to that in previous years because there has not been a population study or surveillance program conducted in previous years for comparison purposes. One certain fact is that given the swampy conditions in the Acton area, the warm weather and high amount of rainfall in a given year, a large mosquito problem will be found."

"Fortunately there are very few, if any, open sewage ditches in the Acton area. As such there will be minimal mosquito breeding in this type of environment."

More information both from the University of Guelph and from surveillance of test sites in Acton will be included in a future report to assist the Health Unit in determining if a spraying program should be carried out.



Kimberley DeBlauw, 3, cousin Bradley Hammond, 4, and a cast of stuffed animals listen intently during the Sleepytime Story Time at Acton Library Thursday night.