

Twin runs for charity cause attract Terry's local believers

One of the most highly acclaimed Canadian television commercials has a young boy successfully tying his shoe laces for the first time. The caption: "Can cancer be beaten? You bet it can!"

Hopefully that triumphant smile will beam from the faces of dozens of Halton Hills residents as they knot their shoelaces Sunday morning for the local cancer unit's Terry Fox mini-marathon in Acton and Georgetown.

It's the town's way of marking Sept. 13 as Terry Fox Day and its residents will be joining thousands of other citizens from Halifax to Vancouver to continue Terry's monumental trek across Canada which ended prematurely in Thunder Bay last year.

Organizers have planned two ten-kilometre courses: Acton's run will have people circling the Acton High School track 25 times. Georgetown participants will have to complete 13 laps around the track at Fairgrounds Park. Organizers in both communities emphasize that the runs are to be completed at one's own pace, walking, jogging or racing with a friend.

There are pledge sheets available at several locations across town, but if you don't want to canvass for support you can make a personal contribution of \$5 before entering either the Acton or the Georgetown run.

Sheets are available for Georgetown participants at M and M Pro Sports, North Halton Sports, Georgetown Public Library, the Halton Hills Cancer Society offices, the Imperial Bank of Commerce (Main Street branch), the Royal Bank on Main Street, the Bank of Montreal and the Toronto-Dominion Bank in the Georgetown Market Place.

Acton run organizer Gordon Auly has set a community target of \$7,000, or \$1 for each resident of Acton. Pledge sheets are available in the community at L and L Ford, Acton Home Furnishings and the Acton Free Press office.

Both communities will start their runs at the same time—8 a.m. But the event at the AHS track will finish at 5 p.m. while Georgetown runners at Fairgrounds Park should finish by 2 p.m.

Sensing another broomball season just around the corner, staffers at The Herald are looking forward to the event as an opportunity to get in shape. At least five employees (coaching continues) have dedicated themselves to the Terry Fox Run, forming a relay team to cover as many laps as possible in the allotted time.

We'd like you to help. Drop into the office at 45 Guelph Street or give us a call (877-2201, 2202 or 8822) and help fill The Herald's pledge sheet.

Residents who want to do all the work themselves are advised to register early for the run in Georgetown. There will be people at the Armoury at 8:30 a.m. available to give you any additional information before you register.

There will be a minor baseball tourney at Fairgrounds Park as well Sunday afternoon and late registration could get confusing.

Start smiling. Cancer can be beaten!

There has been a greater advance in knowledge and treatment of arthritis in the past ten years than in the preceding 2,000 years. The Arthritis Society urges you to see your doctor as soon as possible if you think you have arthritis. In most cases, arthritis can be effectively managed and disability prevented.



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TERRY FOX

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Health unit awaits results

Concern over salmonella threat

By MAGGIE HANNAH Herald Special

It will probably be the end of next week before results of tests on sludge from a Norval chicken processing plant are known and fears of salmonella are laid to rest.

A spokesman for the Halton health unit said last Thursday that it takes a week to 10 days to get results of tests sent to a laboratory. The sludge sample, taken from farmland off Steeles Avenue at the Tenth Line were taken by the ministry of environment (MOE) last Monday.

John Bud of the MOE's industrial abatement branch in Oakville said the tests were taken after a neighbor complained he was afraid seagulls picking in a field where sludge from Maple Lodge Farms was spread would carry salmonella to his livestock pasturing in a field where the gulls roost.

Dr. Jack Bennett, of Agriculture Canada's health of animals branch office in Brampton, said there had been no cases of salmonella in local livestock reported to his office. If an animal contracted salmonella, or food poisoning as it is commonly called, the animal would run a high fever and scour badly, he said. Contamination would be in meat but not in milk since pasteurization would kill the bacteria.

Referring to Conestoga Lake north of Drayton which was closed to public swimming earlier this summer because of salmonella contamination in the water from dairy cattle upstream, he said the bacteria would have been passed on in the feces.

Mr. Bud said Maple Lodge Farms has applied for a permit to spread sludge from its Norval plant on the Steeles Avenue farm, but the permit has not been granted yet because the ministry isn't sure the company wants to go on with the application.

Maple Lodge is changing its processing operation and may not need to spread sludge at all in the future, he said. The company already has several sludge dumping sites licensed in Halton Hills, Mr. Bud said, but none of them may be needed after the change is completed.

The new site was needed in an emergency when the plant's sewage processing lagoon went septic between April 30 and mid-June. The sludge from the bottom of the treatment lagoon was normal function and chicken feed which an MOE staffer found in the field probably resulted from a malfunction in the plant which allowed some feed and perhaps other scraps to fall in to the sewage and wind up in the lagoon.

Mr. Bud said he's sure the company didn't intentionally dump chicken byproducts on the field. He said that if there was salmonella bacteria in the sludge two months in the sunlight on a field would normally kill the bacteria.

Mr. L.B. Helwig of the food inspection service's Toronto office, and his people inspect the processing end of the plant and were involved when a new system was installed to treat waste water until it is clear and potable again.

The sewage lagoon, however, is off limits to his people. In order to be acceptable to his department, the plant must be in compliance with provincial regulations enforced by the MOE, he said.

"We rely on the environmental people to be sure the plant is okay," he said. "If the lagoon went septic their treatment system broke down. It would concern me if tests were not conducted on the sludge. So long as it's sterile sludge there's no problem."

Mr. Bud said the tests last Monday were the first tests done and resulted from the neighbor's complaint.

Officials of Maple Lodge Farms could not be reached for comment.

—Courtesy Guelph Mercury

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