

## Former Acton resident brews Algonquin beer

Residents of Southern Ontario will soon be able to sip on a new beer from a small independent brewery owned by a former Acton resident.

Evan Hayter is opening the Northern Algonquin Brewing Company Ltd. on Old Brewery Lane in Formosa and he hopes to have the beer on the shelves of local Brewers' Retail outlets by December.

Mr. Hayter lived in Acton with his wife Jane and sons Evan Jr., Chris, Brad and Corey for ten years before moving to Brampton three years ago.

The boys all played all star hockey and softball in Acton and Mr. Hayter coached minor hockey and softball.

The former Marketing director for Carling O'Keefe began brewing Special Reserve Ale beer by special license of Carling O'Keefe two years ago for export to the United States.

But Algonquin beer will be on sale from Sarnia to Oshawa later this year thanks to the old brewery building in Formosa.

Since the brewery closed down in the mid-70s the building has been used by a spring water company but Mr. Hayter plans to give the street name meaning again.

The company will employ 20 people when it first opens and another ten people a year later, said Mr. Hayter.

He will also be introducing two new brands - a light beer and a lager to go along with the ale.

"When we start up we'll be the largest micro-brewery in all of Canada," said Mr. Hayter.

A micro-brewery turns out less than one million cases of beer each year, he explained.

Algonquin will produce 400,000 cases the first year and close to one million three years down the road, said Mr. Hayter.

"With the success of breweries like Upper Canada...we felt there was room for another one," said Mr. Hayter of his efforts to start up another small independent brewery in Ontario.

The fact that the brewery sits on a natural spring water supply will also be a selling point, he said.

Mr. Hayter picked up his new promotional van from Georgetown Chrysler on July 7. He plans to use the van to attend community events once the brewery opens this September.

But don't look for those offbeat television commercials for Algonquin beer.

"Our commercials are not going to be quite as wild. They're going to concentrate on the quality of the product," said Mr. Hayter.

## Canada Day picnic a success

By BETTY SOJKA  
Herald Special

About 10 families gathered together on Canada Day for a fun day of games and a picnic. Ed Tooke was the organizer of this day and did a wonderful job of keeping the events rolling. Bruce Claxton was a winner for the over-27 year category in the Watermelon Spitting Contest. Little Alexis won the children's category.

The Hall Board met on Monday, July 4. Jim Bailey attended the meeting and made a request to have the field behind the Community Centre made into a usable baseball diamond before the summer was out. His team, although representing Ballinafad, has to go practise and have games in other communities.

The Hall Board began planning a "BEACH PARTY DANCE" to be held Aug. 6. This dance is not to be missed, so mark the date on your calendar.

The Ballinafad "Jim Dandies" had a rough week by losing both games played this week. The losses were tough as the team lost both games by just one run. Summer vacation is playing havoc with the team.



Farmers Bill Lasby and Frank Anthony kneel in the stunted corn affected by this season's drought. The two men work at Mr. Anthony's Limehouse farm where crops are dry and a second cutting of hay doesn't look likely.

## Farmers ravaged by drought

by DONNA KELL  
Herald Staff

Without irrigation equipment, and with the critical time for cash crops approaching, Halton Hills' farmers are losing money in the worst drought since 1949, Corn Producers' vice president, Frank Anthony, said last week.

"From an Ontario perspective, the loss of money from corn alone is \$20 million for each day it doesn't rain. For all crops combined, the loss is \$50 million," said Mr. Anthony, himself a Limehouse farmer with 8,000 acres of cash crops, including oats, soybean, corn and hay.

Grain corn fed to livestock and used in the manufacture of "2,500 different products" is reaching a crucial period, according to Mr. Anthony. Stalks that normally reach a six-foot height are measuring under the height of a meter stick.

"If we don't get rain for two or three weeks, it may virtually wipe out grain corn," said Norm Biggar, farmer and president of the Halton Federation of Agriculture.

Despite crop insurance, "you do a whole year's work for nothing," he said.

The price of grain corn, a corn used for starches, cereals, livestock feed, prints, dyes, garbage bags, adhesives and sucrose (the sugar found in sodas), has almost doubled since last year. A bushel of grain corn is selling for \$160 to \$170 up from last year's \$90 a bushel list price.

"Right now, if you want to buy

corn, you'll pay a high price if you can get it, but the people who own the corn - the farmers - are not rushing out to sell it," said Murray Brownridge, a farmer south of Ashgrove.

And the scenario for dairy farmers is not much brighter. Hay fields normally providing food for local cattle and hay for export may not yield a second cutting in this season which usually produces three cuttings (growths of hay).

"Our second cutting is going to be very poor. It could be as bad as 25 per cent of the normal yield," said Mr. Brownridge.

Halton Hills' grain crops are also suffering. Oats, barley and winter wheat (used for pastry flour) are "severely affected," said Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food Representative Phyllis MacMaster.

"It's a very serious situation. There has been no rain since May 15," she said. "We're getting to the stage where it may be too late to save the crops."

Most Halton Hills' farmers have no irrigation equipment to water the crops because it has never been necessary. "We've never had to irrigate before," said Mr. Brownridge.

And irrigation is costly, and therefore, out of the question for farmers, said Frank Anthony. He added that his farm soil is dry for two to three feet below the surface.

"We need two or three inches of rain over a 24-hour period to get a real benefit. When you get into these

kinds of conditions, the ground's so hard that a fast rain just runs off," he said.

And the drought is not just impacting on Halton Hills. It's been described by Frank Anthony as a continental problem. "The scary part of this drought is that it extends from Calgary to Ottawa and as far south as Georgia. What usually is a regional problem is happening all over North America," he said. Mr. Anthony's farm recently shipped bales of hay to troubled American farmers. Normally, export volumes to other countries would be much higher, he said.

Saskatchewan farmers are calling this drought "the worst since the Dust Bowl of the mid 30's," said Bill Lasby.

Mr. Anthony added that the drought will have long-range impact on farmers, right into the winter of 1989, and will probably affect consumers next year, he said.

Agricultural representative Phyllis MacMaster agreed: "The lack of moisture will severely affect yield and revenue down the road." She added that the soil is "caked and cracked", and that sunshine and heat are further drying the already parched ground.

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## Child care study launched

Halton Region has combined forces with the Provincial Ministry of Community and Social Services to fund a child care study.

The Region needs help in finding out what the child care system should look like in the next five years. Researchers will be telephoning 2,600 residents throughout the Region to ask important questions about child care.

The Region wants to know how people feel about the development of child care services. Names will be randomly selected and therefore everyone has an equal chance of participating.

The child care study will assess the basic needs as they exist in the community today and determine what the needs will be for the future. It will include an examination of the demand for overall services, subsidized and non-subsidized care, care for children with special needs,

and the need for transportation services and extended hours.

Marion Emo, research project director, said that, "It is important for people to answer the questions if we are to design a program that meets the needs of residents in the Region."

## Bigger fines coming

Halton Hills' councillors want to give more than a \$5 fine to tractor trailers parked on residential streets.

"We are preparing draft bylaws for the new legislation coming in," said town engineer, Bob Austin at Monday's General Committee meeting.

The report, scheduled for completion in September, is not arriving soon enough for some. Counc. Pam Johnston wants to ensure that the issue will be dealt with "as soon as possible".

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