

EDITORIAL

with Traci Gardner

Is it really just the parents who are lazy?

Traffic issues surrounding McKenzie-Smith Bennett are nothing new. For years, lack of adequate parking has had parents scrambling for spots on the road, leading to poor sight lines, illegal parking and dangerous situations.

School staff should be taking a more proactive approach and not just picking up the phone to call the town bylaw officers in to do the work. It has been suggested to the administration that all teachers could park in south end and free up the entire north end parking lot. Principle Sharon French's response to that was "The primary teachers would have too far to walk" and yet it's the parents who are being called lazy?

Once a year there is a campaign encouraging walking to school in a safe manner, but is there any progress being made? Teachers or parent volunteers could be stationed at the ends of the side streets to safely see the children to the cross walk so the parent would be comfortable knowing their child was safe.

The school hours make it difficult for parents who feel they have no choice but to drop kids off at the last possible second so they are not left alone too long on the unsupervised yard. Classes do not start until 9:15 therefore, teacher supervision in the yard does not start till 8:50 and for parents who work out of town and start at 9am, they are too rushed to have time to park down a side street and walk the distance to the North end. If the yard supervision was expanded, parents could feel more comfortable dropping students off earlier and alleviate the rush. These are all small steps the school staff could take to help battle the safety concerns that have plagued the community for many years.

Unfortunately we don't live in the good old days where everyone felt safe having little children walking the streets. So we must do everything we can to ensure that these treasures are protected.



PEACEFUL IN THE PARK: Prospect Park was a quiet place for Bob Feenstra to practise a little guitar on Sunday. - Ted Tyler photo

Letters

Heavily processed ingredients that are far from "natural"

We spend billions on trying to cure cancer. Why then does Health Canada approve foodstuff that can cause cancer? Obviously if they were doing their job this would not be approved. Problem is they take their orders.

Shocked by this incident, the Cornucopia Institute began a more in-depth review of other chemicals approved for use in organics, to determine whether proper procedures and safeguards

were followed in the past.

"Guess what? For the most part, sadly, they were not," Mark says.

One of the first products the Cornucopia Institute looked at was carrageenan. Like most people in the industry, the initial belief was that it was natural and benign since it comes from seaweed. However, as it turns out, carrageenan is an inflammatory agent tied to serious intestinal disease and is

even categorized as a "possible carcinogen." Just how did that get approved for use in organic foods?

This particular poison is found in most ice cream, some cheese etc. Since this is such an obvious fraud on the public it just joins others - in particular fluoride that is promoted as good for you. One day perhaps someone will be able to PROVE it is, but probably not in my life time.

John Shadbolt

Looking Back

Ten years ago

• Health and safety concerns along with aesthetics, convinced Town councillors to order the demolition of a vacant Storey Drive home that was partially destroyed in a suspicious fire in August 2000.

• Acton Junior Y Daycare announced "with great sadness" the impending closure of the centre that had been operated in rented rooms upstairs at McKenzie-Smith Bennett School for 22 years.

Five Years Ago

• Rockwood Cemetery issues investigated after reports confirmed that the cemetery was losing. Mayor Chris White demanded a detailed breakdown of those cost to investigate why it was losing money.

• Traffic concerns were raised at a condo meeting by neighbours of the then proposed 23 unit townhouse development at the corner of Wallace and Dr. Moore Drive. Residents suggested the Town look at another entrance to the development on Wallace St. not just the common entrance to Dr. Moore Drive.



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