

# EDITORIAL

with Frances Learment

## Hero worship

It is inspiring, but also sobering, to think of the thousands of people who have contributed to the massive success of the annual Acton Terry Fox Run.

Inspiring because the events at the Acton High school track have raised \$701,912 over the past 31 years. Sobering because almost all of those helping keep the Marathon of Hope alive, do so because they, or someone they know or love, has been touched by cancer, a dreaded disease that will kill 75,000 this year.

When Terry Fox dipped his artificial leg in the Atlantic Ocean and set off on a cancer-aborted run across Canada to raise one dollar for cancer research for each Canadian, he did not know that in 2007 cancer would surpass cardiovascular disease as the leading cause of death of Canadians.

He could not know that there would be 186,000 new cases of cancer diagnosed this year, or on a more positive note, that for the first time, more people were living following a cancer diagnosis than dying.

All Terry Fox knew was that with guts, a will to make things better and a generous population, he could do his part to helping fund the research that will lead to a cure. Acton will honour that hero spirit on Sunday, September 16, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. when people will walk/run/jog/cycle laps around the track, commemorating the 26 miles Fox ran daily for 143 days before being stopped in his tracks by a recurrence of cancer.

Support the search for a cure by sponsoring a Terry Fox Run participant, or make a donation to the Acton branch of the Canadian Cancer Society.



### Ten Years Ago

- Acton's first Kinette Club vows to mix fun with growing, learning, making friends and helping the community
- The proud history of the Beardmore name lived on as Acton's Fred Dawkins and daughter Jane Dawkins acquired the rights to the Beardmore name and surviving trademarks.

### Five Years Ago

- The first stone barn built in Erin Township, built by Crewson Corners founder Morgan Crewson, is the showpiece home in a 17-estate lot subdivision north of Highway 7
- Over 250 riders and a crowd of 5,000 enjoyed the World Cup Qualifier, Canadian Country Classic show jumping competition at Halton Place, on 15 Side Road, southeast of Acton.



**RETIREMENT READY:** After 26 years at Acton's Scotiabank, many of them as a customer service supervisor, former Acton resident Ann Stevenson is ready to spend winters in Mexico and summers at her new home in Rockwood. The branch held a good bye party for her on Friday. — Ted Tyler photo

## Educational angst

January might be the actual start of a new year; however, for me the start of the year has always been September when the kids go back to school. In my mind, I actually have a visual circle that represents a year, and even though a circle doesn't have a start or a finish, mine always starts in September and ends in August and begins again.

I suppose next fall when Little J begins school, I will be one of those parents who connect with that office supply store commercial where the dad is skipping down the aisles happily pushing his carts, followed by his frowning kids to the tune of 'its the most wonderful time of the year.'

Egad. I can't believe Little J is already talking about going to school. I tell the Dude about how she talks about during the day, and the things she comes out with. "And she's only two..." I usually end with. The Dude says she's three. "She's closer to three than two," he reasons and I quickly snip back "not yet she is still only two..."

Recently, the topic of school and school buses was a continual one for Little J. Not really that



By **Angela Tyler**

much of a surprise considering one of the family businesses. Her current favourite way of starting discussion is "When I'm older..." One day out of the blue she announced to me "When I'm older. I'm going to school." She continued with, "When I go to school you can cry for me mommy." I told her I probably would, but there were two types of tears, happy and sad, and when she went to school I would be having happy tears, which were as total fib because I know I'll be sad. Then she continued with "you won't have to cry long mommy because I'll come home on the school bus," Almost every day she comes out with something that I have no idea how she came up with.

The Dude and I were reviewing the busy upcoming next five or six weeks and he said, "I guess next year back to school will be a little different for us," His comment surprised me in a way. I suppose I didn't think the

kids going to school would be a big thing for him. Yet, when he started asking some questions like are you sure they are going to be starting two years apart (yes); did you verify they will be going to Limehouse (yes); They go all-day (yes, every two days and every other Friday); are you really going to cry when she starts school (a big yes). I knew he was starting to think about it and realizing what I was... boy those people were right. When you have a baby the time will go by so quickly.

As the night before school starting 2012 was coming to a close we were sitting watching the late night news when more of the back to school commercials played on the TV. I had a new focus to really enjoy this next year even more, especially with Little J, before she starts school next year. Then my focus got completely sidetracked when the Dude informed me that we had officially been out of school longer than we had been in school. Wasn't that just lovely? Thanks for reconfirming why my body aches at night. I'm old. School... it's just a nasty word no matter what context you use it in.



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