

EDITORIAL

with Frances Learment

Reap what you sow

There is something particularly satisfying about eating food that you have grown – something that you have watered, weeded, worried over, and then finally harvested.

The chance for Acton residents to do just that was made much easier this summer – despite the drought – thanks to volunteers who helped establish a co-operative Community Garden in Rotary Park. With a healthy Community grant, on land provided by the Town – which also supplied water all summer long – volunteers planted and tended and then enjoyed.

Some of the bounty – especially the “bursting” bumper crop of tomatoes – will be canned at an education session at St. Alban’s Church next month. Some of the food – including fruit from a Regional Tree Fruit program, will be cooked and served at a four-week, after-school program, hosted by *Chefs Alive*. Twenty-five students from three local schools are enrolled in the pilot project, and there is a waiting list of students who would like to join the program to talk about recipes, cook, eat and have take part in a physical activity.

Some of the bounty continues to be served at the monthly *Acton Together* dinners at St. Alban’s, and some is distributed weekly by the Food for Life program which helps feed 180 people weekly, out of St. Alban’s. With a second round of vegetables and greens now almost ready to harvest, organizers marvel how well the program has been received, with no vandalism and wide-spread community support.

The benefits of the garden are much more than what was sowed.

Looking Back



Ten Years Ago

- One week after being crowned Miss Acton, Erin’s Rachel Wallace voluntarily gave up her title after it was determined that she misrepresenting her home address to pageant officials and was disqualified.

- Halton officials attempting to lure additional doctors to North Halton visited five Ontario universities that have medical programs. Stats showed Acton needed nine additional family physicians to handle the population.

Five Years Ago

- Acton Boy Scout Tom Rivers received the Chief Scout Award – the highest award that can be earned. As an Acton cub, he had also received a Five-Star Cub award.

- Acton honoured the late Max MacSween – Master Gardener and Acton Horticultural Society official – at a dedication service for the Max MacSween Memorial Gardens on Main Street North.



BIRTHDAY BUNCH: On Tuesday, September 18 eighteen members of the Acton Seniors Centre and their guests enjoyed celebrating birthdays that ranged from 57 to 88 years young. The birthday celebrants included, front, from left: Stella Brunelle, Gwen Pemberton, Joan Bateman and Ruth Burke. Middle; Marie Richardson, Dobbie Frizzell, Flora Barber, Lorrie Ryan Lewis, Pat Patterson, Marie Pruetter, Grace Graham and Louis Bonnette. Back: Judi Wanders, Maureen Harvey, Douglas Pratt, Real Tetreault, Ian McAllister, and Orval Chapman. – *Julie Conroy photo*

Our MPP Reports by Ted Arnott

MPP Wellington - Halton Hills



Earlier this month, former Alberta Premier Peter Lougheed passed away. On September 19, I spoke in the Ontario Legislature to pay tribute to him. The following is the Hansard record of my remarks:

I rise this afternoon as our party’s critic to the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs to pay tribute to one of our finest Canadians, who passed away last week.

Peter Lougheed was one of the most consequential Premiers that this country has ever seen. I was privileged to meet him once at an event in Toronto in the late 1990s, along with our now Halton Region Chair, Gary Carr.

As a political leader, Peter Lougheed was moderate, sensible and practical. Last week, I heard former Alberta Premier Don Getty interviewed on CBC Radio. He described his colleague Mr. Lougheed as someone who was great to work with and who inspired everyone around him by his example.

When Peter Lougheed assumed the leadership of the Alberta Progressive Conservative Party, it was a minor party with limited prospects. He transformed it into one of the greatest political dynasties in Canadian history, holding power in Alberta without interruption since 1971.

He was a statesman who was widely respected across the country and was influential in the patriation of the Canadian Constitution. However, he was forthright and resolute in standing up to the federal government in fighting for his province’s interests.

He presided over the transformation of Alberta into the booming energy powerhouse that we know today. He was a good steward of the province’s resources. He did not squander his province’s newfound oil wealth but instead had the foresight to establish the Alberta Heritage Fund to put money away for a rainy day.

Peter Lougheed was a man of honesty and integrity. He was a

true leader who always had the best interests of his province at heart. Peter Lougheed exemplified the kind of leadership that every province would hope for.

All across Canada, we lament his passing, and our sincere condolences are extended to his family.

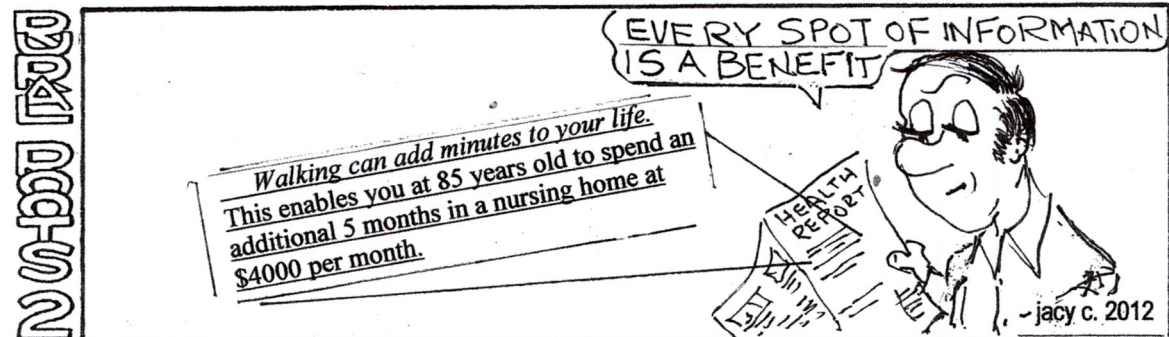
The glorious transition of the seasons, from summer to autumn, is upon us once again. In rural Ontario, it is the time for fall fairs.

Year after year in communities across Ontario, enthusiastic local volunteers work very hard to organize and set up these annual celebrations of farming and our rural way of life.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to everyone who helped with the fall fairs in Aberfoyle, Acton, Fergus, and Georgetown. I attended and enjoyed all of them, and look forward to the Erin Fair on the Thanksgiving weekend.

Thanks to all who volunteer their time and talents to help show the very best of our communities.

Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott welcomes your comments. He can be reached at 1-800-265-2366. His website address is www.tedarnottmpp.com



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PUBLISHING LTD.

373 Queen Street East, Unit 1
Acton, Ontario L7J 2N2
email: thenewtanner@on.aibn.com

(519) 853-0051 Fax: (519) 853-0052

Publisher
Ted Tyler

Editor
Frances Learment

Editorial Contributors
Angela Tyler

Advertising and Circulation
Marie Shadbolt

Composing Traci Gardner, Iain Brennan

Typesetting Melissa Paul

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