

TERRY FOX RUN SEPTEMBER 15, 2013

Inspired By A Dream,
Grounded In Tradition,
Volunteer-Driven.

No entry fee.
No minimum donation.



The Marathon of Hope continues

By Jon Hurst

The Acton Terry Fox Run Committee invites you to join us at Acton High School on Sunday, September 15,

for our 33 annual Terry Fox Run. The official ribbon cutting takes place at 8 a.m., with Mayor Rick Bonnette and the newly crowned Miss Acton Fair in attendance. Partici-

pants can arrive any time between 8 and 3 p.m., to run, walk, cycle or stroll around the high school track, which gives them the opportunity to also attend the Acton Fall Fair,

either before or after. Pledge forms are available at many locations around town, and at all schools.

Many Halton Hills residents have cherished memories of seeing and even talking to Terry Fox in 1980 as his Marathon of Hope travelled through town over a three day period. On Tuesday, July 22, Terry completed his day's running on highway 7 near Rockwood. Because he was behind schedule, he travelled from Rockwood to Georgetown that evening to attend a dinner held in his honour at the Lions Hall in Georgetown, where many citizens were thrilled to meet him and hear him speak. The following morning Terry began running again from Rockwood, passing through Acton, where residents lined

the streets to cheer him on, and the late Lorne Doberthein, an Acton resident who also lost his leg to the same cancer, cycled along beside him.

Terry stopped around noon just west of Georgetown so he could attend a special fundraising luncheon in Toronto. Bright and early the following morning he ran through Georgetown and Norval, with well-wishers cheering him on. My family and I were on holidays at our Lake Simcoe cottage during this time, and did not see Terry in Halton Hills. We were following his progress on the radio however, and we got up one morning at 4 am and drove to a spot on Highway 11 to wait for him as he began his run.

We stood in the dark at the intersection at Fennels Corners, and it soon became evident that others had the same idea, as the number of people present rose to about

forty. We all silently stared down the highway with great anticipation, and finally the flashing lights of the OPP cruiser following Terry were visible.

The car and Terry were hidden behind a slight incline in the road, but soon we could hear the thumping of his footsteps on the highway. Then suddenly, out of the darkness, he emerged, his silhouette outlined by the headlights of the cruiser. It was an unforgettable moment, and I wanted to say something inspiring, but as he ran by I stood there dumbfounded, unable to say a word. Later in the day we decided to catch up to Terry, so we drove north on the highway north of Barrie and found Terry resting at a motel. We approached Bill Vigers, the Cancer Society person who travelled with Terry, asking to buy Terry Fox t-shirts. When I looked in his trunk, I saw boxes of t-shirts, Kentucky Fried Chicken barrels filled with money, and piles of dirty laundry. When Terry emerged from the room, he stood beside a group of us signing some autographs, and then prepared to resume running north. As he began I was finally able to say something, yelling, "God bless you, Terry Fox." At that moment I believed nothing could, or would, stop this young man from finishing his Marathon of Hope.

Sadly, however, as we all know, on September 1 just south of Thunder Bay, Terry ran his last mile. His cancer had returned, and following an emotional press conference as he lay on a stretcher, Terry was flown home to Vancouver for assessment. Months of treatments ensued, but they were unsuccessful. Terry died in the early morning hours of June 28, 1981, his favourite time of day, when the world was dark and still.

Since his passing and over the years, Terry has been recognized and celebrated as a true Canadian hero, who inspired and motivated us all. Just as many will always remember seeing Terry here in Halton Hills, I will forever cherish the memory of seeing him emerge out of the darkness on that early summer morning so many years ago.

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*Time to register
for the Boys &
Girls clubs at
Bethel.*

Registration night will be **Thursday September 12th**
@ Bethel CRC (across from Home Hardware) from
7:00 - 8:30

Cadets is a Bible based program is for boys ages 7 - 13. Badges, camping and woodworking are all part of the fun! Boys are part of small groups broken down according to age called a "cadre" and these groups work together on crafts, badges and learning about Jesus. CADETS meet **TUESDAY** nights from 7-8:45 between September and April.

GEMS (Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior) **Girls' Club** meets **THURSDAY** nights from 7-8:45 and is for girls grades 2-8 (ages 7-13). "Badge work, crafts, games, singing, and learning about Jesus are part of the fun activities at GEMS, in addition to annual events, including a fun father-daughter night, sleepover, camping, theme night and mother-daughter banquet. The girls sing together for the opening and then are separated into grades with a group leader who will guide them through the program for the year.

For more information about these or other programs visit www.actoncrc.com or call the church 519-853-2121