

# West Nile Virus infected mosquitoes found in Acton - Halton urges caution

Mosquito pools testing positive for the West Nile virus are on the rise across the province and Ontarians need to continue taking proper precautions to reduce their risk of contracting the virus.

Dr. Arlene King, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, reminds Ontarians to continue protecting themselves from mosquito bites by:

- wearing light-coloured clothing, long-sleeved shirts, long pants, socks and shoes when out-

doors;

- using insect repellent containing DEET, and follow the directions carefully;

- avoiding the outdoors at dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active;

- repairing or replacing screens on windows and doors to avoid mosquitoes entering your home; and

- it is also important for Ontarians to reduce prime breeding grounds for mosquitoes by draining standing water from

around their home on a regular basis.

Most people who contract West Nile virus will experience mild illness including fever, headache, body ache, nausea, vomiting and rash on the chest, stomach or back. More serious symptoms can include muscle weakness, stiff neck, confusion, tremors, numbness and sudden sensitivity to light. Symptoms usually develop between two and 15 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito.

Ontarians are also reminded to be aware of the dangers from tick bites. Lyme disease is a rare but serious illness that can be spread to humans by the bite of an infected tick. The risk of getting Lyme disease is low, but complications, if infection is left untreated, can affect the heart, nervous system and joints.

There are several ways to prevent tick bites:

- wear light-coloured clothing, long-sleeved shirts, long pants, socks and shoes when outdoors;

- tuck pants into socks;
- use insect repellent containing DEET and follow the directions carefully; and

- when hiking, stay on paths and avoid contact with overgrown brush.

People should also search their body for ticks at least once a day if they are in an area of the province where they are at an increased risk of exposure to Lyme disease-associated ticks. If a tick is located on their body, they should use tweezers to remove it. Grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible and pull it straight out, gently but firmly. The tick should be saved alive in a jar or screw-top bottle and taken to the local Public Health Unit for testing.

"The risk of contracting West Nile virus and Lyme disease is low providing people take the appropriate precautions to protect themselves. I encourage Ontarians to continue taking the precautions that are necessary to prevent mosquito and tick bites,"

said Dr. Arlene King, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health in a press release.

Forty-three positive mosquito pools have been found to date this year, which is higher than the numbers reported during the same time period over the last four years. One travel-related human case of West Nile virus has been reported in 2011 to date. Since 2008, cases of Lyme disease in Ontario have remained stable at approximately 100 per year.

Forty-one confirmed and probable cases of Lyme disease, including travel-related cases, have been reported to date this year, which is less than the number reported during the same time period in 2009 and 2010.

## HALTON HILLS SENIORS RECREATION CENTRES



### ACTON

Only four more Saturdays until our GST Auction. I hope everyone has the date marked on their calendars. It should be a lot of fun, and shortly there will be a list posted at the Centre with some of the exciting items offered for auction.

On Thursday afternoon at the Bid Euchre game, May Hoare and Bernie MacMillan, and Mae Milton all had mooners.

Ruth asked me to remind people that Rama for the next two months will be one week earlier on Wednesday, August 24 and Wednesday, September 21.

The Centre's co-ordinator, Wendy Krever, told me that the survey members filled out about the Centre yielded very useful information. It was interesting to see that people felt they gained their information about the activities at the Centre, from the local newspapers and newsletters, so we must thank the local papers for the great coverage. The other

thing people really looked forward to were the social events.

We will be holding our Open House week from September 12 - 16. There will be various opportunities for you to try some of the programs, treats and coffee, plus the chance to win prizes. This is open to all people 55+ plus. If you haven't visited the Centre before please take the time to drop in. There will be an advertisement in The New Tanner closer to the event with a full list of events. I am sure there will be something to interest you.

It was a full house for the Bingo last Friday. It was great to see so many people laughing and enjoying themselves. The movie on Tuesday afternoon at 1 will be *Something Borrowed*; Michelle says it is a cute and funny, romantic comedy and just the thing for a summer afternoon's entertainment.

Thinking of romance there is a trip to Strat-

ford Festival Theatre to see Camelot on Tuesday, September 20. Included in the price is a buffet lunch at Queen's Landing.

There are lots of interesting trips planned over the next twelve months.

There are the trips run by Great Canadian, and the joint travel desks at Acton and Georgetown Seniors Centres. There are also the "Daytrippers" out of the Georgetown Seniors Centre also using Great Canadian coaches. Then there are the Gals on the Go short trips that I plan, using a Tyler school bus. There is always something to interest everyone. If you don't like driving or are unable to drive a distance, you just need to be able to get to the pick up points. In Acton it is Acton Seniors Centre and in Georgetown the Mold Masters SportsPlex.

The weekly 50/50 was not won this week, so next week the amount to be won should be around \$130.

## AUCTION SALE

For estate of Ken & Anna Stubbington

With additions

Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m.

5270 1<sup>st</sup> line, Erin Township, 1 mile s. of #124

*Antique & Modern Furniture* - 5 wooden cane bottomed chairs, old school desk, 3 dressers with mirrors, 2 washstands, rocking chair, hanging lamps, metal bedframes, futon frames, 2 parlour tables, 5 drawer cupboard, buffet, wooden high chair, trunk, wool blankets, records (some 78's), arm chair, file cabinet, stereo equipment, dark room equip., freezer, quilting frames, lots of dishes and glass, folding chairs, curio cabinets, couch set, dining table, picnic table, books, jars

*Tractor, Equip., Snowmobiles* - Ford 2000 loader tractor, 12 hp Yard Works riding mower, Wheel horse lawn tractor(not org. motor), Skidoo Safari 377, Skidoo 250, Motoski 340, plow, JD Bush hog, MF 9' cult., land roller, potato digger, older snow. trailer, mink cages & some access., tools & hardware, patio stones, scrap metal

**Terms and Conditions** - Cash or Cheque (with ID) only. Items to be paid in full day of sale. Owner, auctioneer and staff not responsible for accidents or loss on day of sale. All verbal announcements on day of sale take precedence over written ads. Lunch booth/washrooms.

For details contact... **Sold Your Way Auctions**

**Peter Van Der Heyden, Auctioneer**

**519-856-9720 519-400-5443**