

Town Digest

Water rates up

An Acton taxpayer with average assessment of \$350,000 will pay an additional \$27 for water next year - \$778, up from \$752. The increase was approved at a Halton committee last week, was ratified by Halton Council yesterday (Wednesday).

Faced with the prospect of paying \$1,000 for water within six years, several Regional councillors raised concerns about how expensive the necessity of life is becoming. Along

with the proposed rate increase, staff are pleased that water conservation measures, including more efficient appliances, have led to a dramatic decrease in water consumption, 274-cubic metres a year from 330-cubic metres.

Commute champs

Car pooling and bicycling to work at the Civic Centre helped Halton Hills to be named a Metrolinx Smart Commute Employer of the Year. The Town is one of

11 employers recognized in 2011 out of approximately 180 participating Smart Commute employers in the GTA. In the first six months, 34 per cent of Town employees joined the Carpool Zone, a car-pool matching service, and of those, 53 per cent participated in a carpool.

The Town also provided secure bike lockers for riders, and looked into ways of encouraging cycling through programs like bike sharing.



DANCE DIVAS: The music throbbed and the lights flashed as Acton teens partied at the Town's dance at the Acton arena/community centre. Acton's Sydney Weaver (top, centre) was joined by volunteers Justine McIntyre (left) and Laura Dimytosh. - Ted Tyler photos

Police/Fire Report

No permit

Acton firefighters were busy last Tuesday with a number of calls, beginning at 11:10 a.m., with a burn complaint call on the Third Line, south of 10 Side Road. The property owner was burning without a valid permit, and was advised to apply for a necessary permit before resuming burning.

False alarm?

Acton firefighters were unable to find the source of a natural gas smell reported at 6:10 p.m. on Tuesday, in the vicinity of 137 Mill St. East. Crews thoroughly searched the area but found no trace of gas and suspect the smell may have come from a passing vehicle.

No permit

Last Monday, Acton firefighters responded to a burn complaint call on 32 side road, west of Highway 25, and found the homeowner was burning without a valid permit. He was advised how to apply for a permit before conducting any more burns.



Christmas Memorial Dove Tree

Once again, you, your family and friends are invited to take a complimentary dove from our Memorial Dove Tree in memory of each of your loved ones who have died.

The Dove Tree will be in the funeral home until December 24th at 5p.m.



MacKinnon Family Funeral Home
"Shoemaker Chapel"
 55 Mill Street East, Acton
 519-853-0350



Halton Our Kids Network cited by province

Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Arlene King, released her 2010 Annual Report, *Health, Not Health Care - Changing the Conversation* recently. One of the key messages in the report is "the most important aspect of healthy public policy is that it must cross government and sectoral lines." As an example of an Ontario municipality doing just that, Dr. King cited Halton Our Kids Network (OKN), whose key partners are the Halton Region Health and Social and Community Services Departments

are key partners. "OKN is making a big impact in our region, especially in the neighbourhoods that need support the most," said Gary Carr, Halton Regional Chair. "I am proud that Halton Regional Council has been a funding partner since its inception in 1996, and I am also proud to see the work of this incredible collaboration be recognized by Dr. King." Our Kids Network serves children and youth in Halton, and promotes healthy development, security

and safety of all children, youth and families through neighbourhood collaboration, service integration and measuring results. One of the primary avenues for the support in Halton is through three neighbourhood-based "Hubs". The Milton Hub, the Aldershot Hub and the Acton Hub provide space and resources for families, schools and the community to work together to support children and youth.

"As Dr. King argues in her report, it is indeed communities, families, schools, businesses and more that influence good health," said Dr. Bob Nosal, Halton's Medical Officer of Health. "That is why we have passionate staff from both the Health and Social Services Departments who have been dedicated to supporting Our Kids Network for many years."

To find out more about Halton Our Kids Network, visit www.ourkidsnetwork.ca.

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