

Volunteers keeping the Acton Community Garden growing strong

By: Jane Dougan

Neither marauding rabbits nor the odd drop of rain could dampen the enthusiasm of the volunteers who gather Wednesday evenings to tend to the Acton Community Garden. An accessible, co-operative garden, this past Wednesday volunteers gathered a bounty of dill cucumbers, swiss chard and spinach.

Committee Chair Chris Golden sent out a special thank you to all the volunteers who have helped with seeding and tending the garden so far, especially Rachel Sithamparapillai of Halton Hills Christian School, Shawn Brown of Acton High School, Ann Nevans of St. Joseph Elementary



School, Tara Dagenais of Mckenzie-Smith Bennett Public School, and Lisa Hunzinger of the Acton Public Library.

Weeding, watering, planting and tending continue throughout the season. Volunteers are very welcome at weekly

workbees each Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. The cooperative twenty-bed garden is located in Rotary Park off Elizabeth Street. For more information, please contact Chris Golden by phone, 905-867-4653, or by email, actoncommunitygarden@gmail.com

Local singer's star is on the rise

By: Vivien Fleisher

18 year old singer-songwriter Wes Mason grew up in rural Nassagaweya. A student at Brookville Public School and Acton High, he has been involved with music since the age of six. Today, he's a star on the rise, with a couple of singles getting regular airplay, an EP set for release August 15, a radio tour this fall and a full-length record slated for early 2018. A recent performance of his song 'Consequence' at Dundas Square in Toronto even ended with screaming fans. Mason said, "When you're doing something in downtown Toronto, they take you seriously."

It's a great narrative; connecting with his love of music at six and writing by the time he was 10, but Mason explained it wasn't a straight line. "I've been through a ton of music teachers, and none of them really worked that well. Once a teacher takes out the book with all the songs in it, and this is what we're going to be doing for the next two weeks, then it's like school."

In fact, Mason never learned to read music

after all those years. He was just innately musical, and his creative side rejected the conservatory approach. Luckily for him, he found a piano teacher who was also a vocal coach, and that was the turning point. Kirsten Pel Chat became his coach before high school and got Mason into singing. When he started writing songs, "She freaked out and said I needed to think about doing this, hooked me up with her brother Ben. That's the tie. Now luckily Ben is head engineer at

the music industry. Things are going so well for him these days that he doesn't have the time, or even the need to do the applied leg of the program; he's "doing what I'm supposed to be doing anyways."

So, who is his biggest supporter? "Definitely my mom...she's almost like a manager." Living in the country—which he loves—with his father commuting to downtown Toronto every day, Mason's mother stayed home with him and his two sisters. On that note, he said his mother definitely had a harder job than his father.

With things going so well, the last question was a natural: what advice does he have for aspiring musicians? "Know what you want to do with your music, and stay optimistic. Hang out with people who enjoy the same thing you're doing. Put all your energy into it. Live in that world all the time, or you'll just be a bedroom musician all your life." Those are wise words from a young man who turns 19 in a month.

For more information about Mason, visit www.wesmasonmusic.com



Singer Wes Mason

Kensington studios."

Mason attended Metalworks Institute in Mississauga, which covered "every single thing you'd need to know" in

halton.ca 311

NOTICE OF ROAD CLOSURE

**Trafalgar Road (Regional Road 3)
Zone 4 Watermain and Reservoir,
Town of Halton Hills**

5 SIDEROAD
SIXTH LINE
TRAFALGAR ROAD (REG. RD. 3)

■ CLOSURE
- - - LOCAL ACCESS

5 Sideroad west of Trafalgar Road (Reg. Rd. 3) will be closed for watermain installation from Friday, August 18, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. to Monday, August 21, 2017 at 7:00 a.m.

Access for local residents and Hillcrest United Church will be maintained from Sixth Line.

Contact number: W-2990A-15
Project Manager: Chris Ewen
905-825-6000 x 7141

Please contact us, as soon as possible, if you have any accessibility needs at Halton Region events or meetings.

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