

Halton Hills about to get a piece of the Pickleball action

By: Vivien Fleisher

With Family Day right around the corner, there was a definite theme to announcements made by Mayor Rick Bonnette at the start of last Monday's council meeting: fitness for all. The original concept behind the decade-old Family Day was to spend time with family—in the dead of winter. To that end, the town of Halton Hills has taken a decidedly physical approach to promoting this holiday with the slogan "Make Active Choices the Easy Choices" so that winter won't "keep you at home." At multiple venues, families can "swim, skate, dance, and move" to encourage "everyone in our community to be active and lead a healthy lifestyle."

Mayor Bonnette then spoke about a sport popular with seniors these days—pickleball—that he first saw in a magazine article and soon learned has become the fastest-

growing sport in North America.

For those unfamiliar, it's a paddle sport blending badminton, tennis and table tennis. Players hit perforated polymer balls over a net and the rules are more aligned with tennis. Though it began as a children's sport in 1965, it's now played by all ages,



particularly seniors. Bonnette said he'd recently talked to many people who want to play. Recreation and Parks Commissioner Warren Harris concurred that a good number at a skate park workshop last

week were there specifically for pickle ball, and "we want to continue to foster and develop and work closely with that group." On Mayor Bonnette's direction, "we'll be having additional opportunities for pickleball going forward this season. We will have some specific direction about locations coming further, but I think part of what they had approached you about was about dedicating one of the existing tennis courts to help further their play and foster their development," adding they're working to build the league and get more play happening, plus more capacity so the league can get organized.

As for the name, it apparently has no relationship to brined cucumbers. Invented in Seattle, WA by a congressman, the story varies in the telling, but may have to do with the family dog, Pickles. It's popular, though because while it doesn't require strength, games can still be quite intense.

Environmental Site Assessment grant



Damian Szybalski, Manager of Economic Development, Innovation and Culture for the Town of Halton Hills; Ron Heller, President of Frank Heller & Co.; Mayor Rick Bonnette on site at 125 McDonald Boulevard, Acton.

By: Alex Hilson

At a cheque presentation on Wednesday, January 31, Frank Heller & Co. Limited became the first recipient of the Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) Grant under the Town's Community Improvement Program (CIP). The grant was used to complete the Phase II Environmental Site Assessment on approximately 3.6 hectares of land located at 125 McDonald Boulevard in Acton.

According to the Town, the CIP is a "tool box" of programs that encourages local businesses to make investments in their properties. This money

is used to assist with the undertaking of environmental studies to garner more detailed information with respect to the potential remediation costs of brownfield properties.

The Province of Ontario defines "brownfield properties" as vacant or underutilized places where past industrial or commercial activities may have left pollution behind. If a brownfield property is being redeveloped for a new use, property owners and redevelopers must meet requirements for assessing the environmental condition of a property.

"This housing will be a wonderful addition to the community with its prime

location to the downtown area, and the positive ripple effect provided to the area services, shops and restaurants," said Mayor Rick Bonnette of the 108 new townhouses to be built on the site. "This is a prime example of how the Town's CIP investment has far reaching benefits."

Ron Heller, President of Frank Heller & Co., is also happy with how the project is progressing. "Things have been going nicely. The Town's been very cooperative, the Region's been very cooperative. We've run into several road blocks in this project. Our ambition is to start building houses in June or July."

Heritage Acton recaps the year and reviews future challenges

By: Alex Hilson

Heritage Acton held their Annual General Meeting on Monday, February 5. Along with board members, a number of people interested in the Acton Town Hall Centre attended the evening.

Heritage Acton consists of a group of local volunteers and is a registered charity. It owns and operates the Acton Town Hall Centre. Heritage Acton also produces the annual Historic Acton Calendar

along with offering a number of Acton heritage presentations each year.

Recapping their year, Heritage Acton's board announced the hall was used for over 250 various events in 2017. These events included weddings, receptions, birthday and anniversary celebrations, galas, business and community club meetings, zumba classes, charity fundraisers, young adult local theatre, music and sketch comedy performances, the Acton Winter

Carnival, the Christmas Market, and the Stuffed Stocking Auction.

This coming year, along with some new music and magic entertainment evenings, there will be more Speaker Series events. The hall will host the Heritage Services Symposium, The Leather

Crafters Conference, and a Credit Valley Conservation workshop. The major challenge in 2018/2019 will be funding the repair/replacement of the hall roofs, bell tower, and chimney.

"I was very pleased at the amount of energy and interest generated by the

discussion that followed the formal meeting," said Lloyd McIntyre, Heritage Acton's Returning Chair. "As a community, we are a very fortunate to have such a number of excel-

lent venues and active groups who provide a broad variety of activities. Our goal is to build on our community strengths and assist with the regeneration of our downtown."

A TOUCH OF CLASS
FLOORING • KITCHEN • BATH • INC

519-853-1190

Come see us for all your Kitchen, Bath and Flooring renovation needs!

28 Main St. N. Acton
www.atochofclassacton.com

The Aesthetic Revolution In Removable Dentures

- Have you ever seen someone for the first time, and you immediately knew they wore dentures?
- Have you ever known someone who had an uncomfortable denture that didn't fit right?
- Are you aware that a poorly fitting denture can cause premature aging?

Choose the denture that fits your lifestyle, present, past, & future!

Full & Partials • Precision BPS® • Repair & Relines in our In-House Lab

Acton Denture Clinic
Tracy Mitchell, DD

130 Mill St. E. Unit 103 Acton
519-853-0079

Treatment for:

- Fibromyalgia
- Chronic Pain
- Stress
- Headaches
- ...and much more.

Naomi Bedell
Registered Massage Therapy
65 Mill St. E., Acton, ON
519-853-8557

Deanna Wilson
BSc. DCh. Chiroprapist Foot Specialist
519-853-8557
65 Mill St. E. Acton, ON L7J 1H4

- Foot/Nail Care
- Diabetic Footcare
- Custom Orthotics
- Home visits

www.actonhead2toe.com