

# COMMENT

*The way we were*



## No beer in Acton

In 1911 the proprietor of the Dominion Hotel, his sons, and the bartender were fined \$1,120 plus costs for having beer on the premises. While prohibition didn't begin until 1916, Acton had imposed no-liquor laws through the Local Option of the Liquor Act. This photo shows government officials destroying 100 gallons of beer at the Town Hall after the trial. 105 years later, we can now purchase beer at grocery stores in Ontario.

*Text courtesy of Heritage Halton Hills/Photo courtesy of Esquesing Historical Society*

*From our readers*



## WATER ART

Rein Pater captured this photo of frozen ice bubbles on the Credit River in Georgetown recently.

*Have a photo you want to share? Email — with details — to [cjgamble@theifp.ca](mailto:cjgamble@theifp.ca).*

## We are all citizens of the world

Most of you have read and heard about the tragic plight of citizens of Syria who are caught in a bloody civil war.

There are millions of Syrians, (mostly families) who have lost everything and have witnessed horrors that we can only imagine; and they have fled to escape immediate danger.

The Canadian government has a target of welcoming over 25,000 plus Syrian refugees to Canada.

This is not the first time Canada has welcomed refugees. Canada has stepped up to the plate many times in the past to help those civilians who have left a war-torn country. Here are some examples:

After The Second World War, Canada accepted many people who were hoping for a better life. In 1956, Canada was put to the test again. After the Hungarian uprising against the Soviets, Canada accepted around 40,000 refugees.

In 1968, following the Soviet invasion of then-Czechoslovakia, 11,000 people came to Canada. In 1970, Canada accepted approximately 70,000 Vietnamese, who were coined the 'Boat People'.

Approximately 100 years ago, Georgetown took in the Armenian orphans known as the "Georgetown Boys". Our humanitarian efforts have not ended there...

As I write this today, residents of Halton Hills are once again open-

ing up their hearts and wallets to sponsor Syrian families. There are two groups that I know of in Halton Hills that are showing great leadership in their fundraising for this humanitarian effort. One of the groups in Georgetown is the Halton Hills Coalition for Refugees. You can find more information at [//gofundme.com/hhc4r](http://gofundme.com/hhc4r).



**RICK BONNETTE**

In addition, St. Alban's church in Acton has the St. Alban's Refugee Fund. More information can be found at [stalbansrefugeefund.blogspot.ca/](http://stalbansrefugeefund.blogspot.ca/). These groups would be happy to hear from you. It's been said before, "we are all citizens of the world."

\*\*\*\*

I invite everyone to come out to the Acton Winter Carnival Jan. 31 at Prospect Park in Acton.

Lots of outdoor activities are planned. This will be a lot of fun for the whole family. Last year was a huge success; we just need the snow to stay.

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Congratulations to Dini Lamers of Dini & Co. of downtown Georgetown who won the prestigious award of Canadian Retailer of the Year.

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Keeping it real! I can be reached at 905-873-2601, ext. 2342 or by email at [mayor@haltonhills.ca](mailto:mayor@haltonhills.ca) or read my blog at [www.rickbonnette.blogspot.com](http://www.rickbonnette.blogspot.com). You can follow me on twitter at: @RickBonnette1

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• awarded readers choice 24 times •