

EDITORIAL

With Frances Niblock



Terrific turn-out, Acton!

Thanks donors! I had hoped *The Tanner* would be able to list the names of each of the 177 Acton residents who attended Thursday's blood donor clinic, but we can't name them because of Red Cross confidentiality rules.

It's too bad, because the unselfish donors don't get the public thanks they deserve.

The clinic, sponsored by *The Tanner*, was a tremendous success with the second-highest turnout in the past decade, despite a shortage of nurses which made the wait longer.

Ontario Red Cross clinic co-ordinator, Barb Vivash, says she's "thrilled with the phenomenal turnout," and impressed to see the clinic drew 27 new donors.

Thanks to the local Red Cross officials and nurses who ran the clinic with humour and efficiency.

Thanks to the RCMP for Acton Mountie Constable Tom James, a welcome diversion during the longer-than-usual wait.

Thanks to Acton Bakery, Mr. Mugs, Acton IGA, PREView Video and Acton Legion for their whole-hearted support.

Most of all, thanks to those who gave the gift of life.

Acton residents will have another chance to show how generous they are when Cancer Society volunteers stage their annual fund-raising blitz tomorrow (Thursday) night.

One hundred and 65 dedicated volunteers will canvass each and every Acton home asking for donations.

Last year Acton had the highest totals per capita of same-size communities in the central counties district and dedicated local Cancer Society officials are confident that this year's campaign will be just as successful.

The Cancer Society's symbol of hope — the daffodil — will be on sale in various locations in Acton this weekend to help raise money for research, patient services and education.

Please give generously.

Because of a problem with smokers at Acton High School, officials are reviewing the Halton Board of Education's ban on smoking on school property.

There have been complaints that the students, who can't smoke on school property, are bothering some residents in the new homes across the street from the school with their foul language and snowball-throwing.

School officials say there is also the concern that a student, standing smoking on a melting snowbank on the edge of the school property, could fall under the wheels of a passing car.

I hope they don't waive the smoking ban.

It doesn't make a lot of sense to teach students that smoking kills, and then let them smoke on school property.

LETTERS

A resounding success!

To the Editor,

The Red Cross Blood Clinic on Thursday was a resounding success. The clinic was the second-largest collection of blood in Acton in the last 10 years.

From the 177 donors, 166 units were collected, exceeding the goal for the clinic by 28 per cent. This is most noteworthy in that the nursing staff for the clinic was undermanned.

The clinic volunteers and staff would like to extend a real vote of thanks to all the donors who were so patient and understanding.

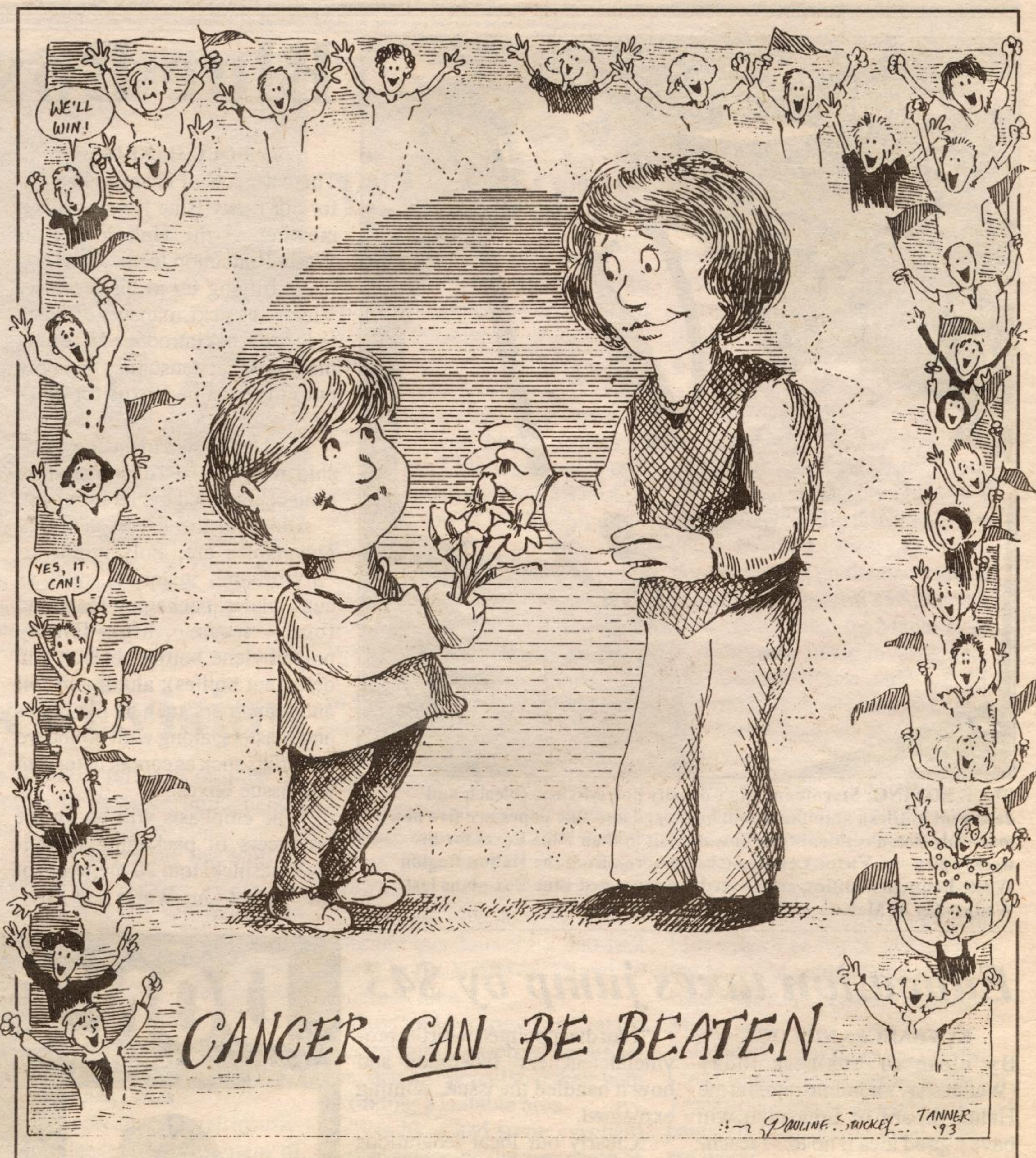
The Acton Clinic continues to perpetuate its reputation as one of the most consistently successful clinics of its size in Central Ontario. We have a great turnout of our regular donors but we also

have an increasing number of first-time donors showing up.

The March Clinic was sponsored primarily by *The Acton Tanner* and we would like to thank them very much for the first-rate job that was done for us. The editorial and advertising support was extensive and very effective. On clinic day the *Tanner* staff (and Constable Tom James of the RCMP) showed up to lend a helping hand and to supply reading material for the donors.

The clinic is indebted to the Acton Legion for the free and complete use of their hall, as well as the volunteers from their ranks who do a yeoman's service in the kitchen. Other supporters we would like to thank very much are: Acton Bakery, Mr. Mugs, PreView Video and the IGA. Purely from a sense of community and a desire to help, these businesses have generously responded to our requests for their help in making the clinic a reality. Thank-you from the Red Cross.

Geoffrey Moon
Acton Blood Donor Clinic



LETTERS

Pull plug on POWER

To the Editor,

As one of the first and most committed supporters of POWER, I have watched with dismay — and more recently, disgust — as an organization founded by decent, sensible people to STOP THE DUMP has been systematically hijacked by interlopers with questionable motives.

The unconscionable levels of arrogance demonstrated by current POWER heavies Halsall, Barlow and Hilborn over the NEC issue should surely be the final straw for all members of this cult-to-be still capable of independent thought.

Their disgraceful attacks on Councillors Bonnette and Johnson on March 8 should have been answered with lawsuits by two of our most dedicated and effective elected representatives.

Other low points of the same meeting included the sheer inanity of part-time protagonist-failed-mayorality-candidate Barlow using his own experience of spending six months immersed in NEC red tape over an eight-foot extension for his house as evidence of how well the current systems works. This would

Comments for the record

The following text is taken from a prepared statement by Halton Board of Education trustee Dave Whiting at Thursday's budget debate.

First of all, this has been a long and hard process for all of us, and I would like to publicly thank and

be laughable if it weren't so pathetically typical of the utter lunacy beneath the thin veneer of credibility which has accrued to the current leadership of POWER.

As for the pinnacle, president Halsall: when confronted with the just-released hearing panel's report (commissioned by the NEC itself) which obliterated each and every premise in POWER's position on the issue, she said, simply, that the report was "most unfortunate."

I beg to differ; I believe that this report is a most fortunate development — hopefully all fair-minded members of what was once a dignified organization will have finally had enough of the arbitrary fixations and vitriolic antics of the cackling cadre and demand that their names be stricken from the roster.

Moreover, citizens at large will hopefully keep their wallets firmly in purse or pocket the next time these people come calling for cash.

As a community we must, of course, continue the fight to STOP THE DUMP. But the days when POWER had a productive and focused role in this fight — the days when people like the Kirkwoods and Ruth French were leading the charge and lending their integrity to the cause — are long gone.

Sadly, it's time to pull the plug on POWER.

Steve Dawkins
Acton

commend Don Cassidy for the excellent job he did as Chair of the Finance Committee.

Now, even though we have discussed this budget extensively at Finance Committee — a committee that I remind you includes all members of the board — I still
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