

Terry Fox run set for next Sunday

The 14th annual Terry Fox Run will be held on Sept. 18 at the track behind Acton High School.

Participants can arrive any time between 8 am and 3 pm to run, jog, walk or cycle some or all of the 25 laps around the track.

The run will officially open at 8 am with Cathy Gerrow, president of the Acton branch of the Canadian Cancer Society (Acton's 1993 Citizens of the Year) cutting the ribbon.

"In 1993 we actually were in the Top 20 run sites in Ontario in terms of total dollars raised and also in dollars per capita and dollars per participant," explained

Run organizer Jon Hurst yesterday (Tuesday).

"Acton has shown what a giving community we are, and it's just my hope that we can maintain this," said Hurst.

Pledge forms are available throughout town at schools, banks, the Credit Union, variety stores, the Big Scoop, Leathertown Feed, Leathertown Lumber, Home Hardware and the olde Hide House.

"We always need more runners to come out," said Hurst, "but the people and businesses who sponsor and offer donations are just as important as the people who circle the track every year."

Several prizes will be available for participants to win by random draw, including dinner for two at Jack Tanner's Table, Toronto Blue Jay souvenirs and miniature golf at Tuitman's.

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'New' Pageant is Fair highlight

BY DOUG HARRISON
The Acton Tanner

Format changes to the pageant as part of this year's Acton Fall Fair has added enough stress to those involved without opening the door to male contestants, says the Acton Ambassador committee chair.

As reported in the *Tanner* a few weeks back, the pageant, formerly known as the Acton Fall Fair Pageant, will now be referred to as the Acton Ambassador Pageant.

And in the past, the format included an interview with judges and two walks across the stage. Thinking two walks added to the negative image of a beauty contest, pageant organizers have decided to drop the second walk and insert a maximum two-minute speech from each contestant on their feelings of the town or the Fall Fair.

"I'm not sure how it's going to work," said Robson recently, adding another change this year is questioning finalists on what agriculture means to the community. "But we (the Ambassador committee) have been talking about a format change for the last couple of years and we think the changes are in the best interests of the pageant and they better reflect the winner.

"A lot of people have connected it to a beauty pageant, which it isn't. But we can't tell people that because they only see what's on stage. People have also mistaken the judging criteria of appearance (the other two are poise and personality), to mean how the contestant looks when it actually means how they present themselves."

Robson, who has chaired that pageant since 1990, said the inclusion of men into the event wasn't even considered this year, despite urging from the Canadian National Exhibition for increased changes.

"To us (the committee), a format change is big enough because we've been doing the same thing for the last 31 years. And we're not sure how to

make the change."

The 28-year-old went on to say the 10-person committee nixed the male inclusion this year because, in the event of poor attendance, pageant organizers would have trouble determining if it was due to format alterations or adding male participants.

Planning for the pageant began in January with letters sent out to potential judges, format changes determined in May, along with each committee member's duties, and is now wrapping up with finalizing the list of Acton and Rockwood businesses that are donating to the pageant.

"They really make me look good," said Robson of the committee, which is comprised of full-time workers or students going to school. "I don't do a lot anymore. I don't even call committee meetings because I get on the phone and they go to it, and do a tremendous job."

Prizes for the winner this year, which are being displayed in Acton Photo's window, include such items as gift certificates, picture frames, hair dryers, watches and other paraphernalia from donating businesses.

As of last Wednesday, two contestants had confirmed their participation in the pageant. Robson, who said Magic 106 DJ Derrick Botton will emcee the event, is hoping for last year's total of 10.

Females 16 and older who live in Acton, Ballinafad, Limehouse, Rockwood or attend Acton High, are eligible to enter. As well, contestants are accepted until minutes before the pageant begins.

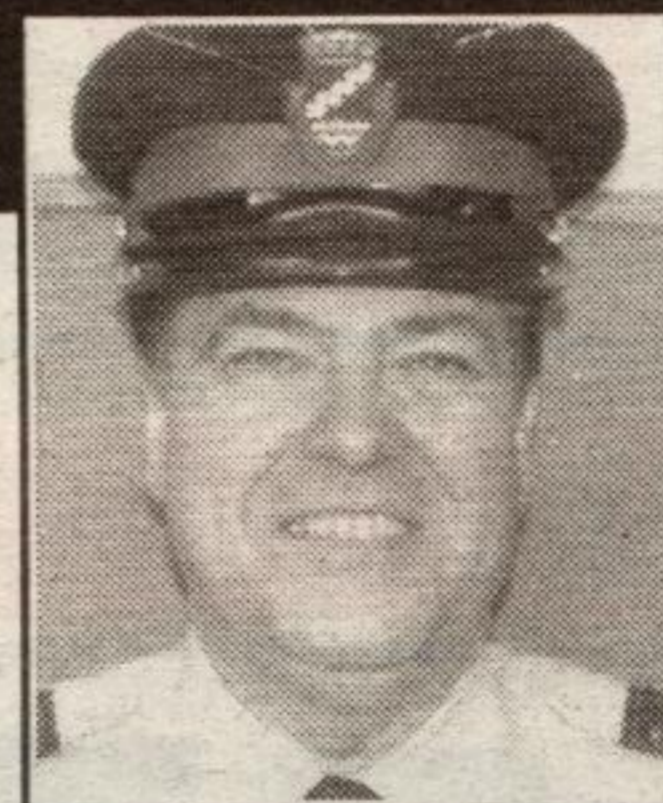
ENTERTAINMENT NOTES: Once again the comical musical duo Men Without Hairs will be kick-starting the Pageant and the Fall Fair with a variety show Friday night. Vaudeville-type performers Victor Hanson and Edgar Thatcher delighted a jammed Community Centre last year, so be sure to find your seat early next Friday!



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