

## Give gift of life

"After the summer our blood supply does run low, so we're hoping Acton residents will take a few moments out of their schedules to give the gift of life next week."

Those words come from organizer Julia Roehrig as Acton's quarterly Red Cross Blood Donor Clinic is slated for next Thursday (Sept. 28) at the Legion.

The clinic runs from 5 to 8:30 pm.

Eligible donors are between the ages of 17 and 71; please bring your donor card or your photo ID to the clinic.

For details, call Joe (853-4686) or Julia at 853-4896.

# MVA taxation a 'bonanza' for Acton

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The Acton Tanner

Most Acton homeowners, farmers and industries will pay less in Regional and school board taxes next year as Halton Hills comes up the big winner in the Region's move to Market Value Assessment (MVA).

The major adjustment of the taxation system puts every property in Halton on equal footing for taxation purposes, so properties of similar value are taxed at similar rates, regardless of where in Halton they are located.

"The overall picture for Halton Hills is a bonanza," a happy Acton Councillor Rick Bonnette reported in an interview on Friday.

"This is the biggest break Halton Hills has had since it joined Regional government and although some Acton property owners will

pay more next year, most will pay less," Bonnette explained.

Halton Hills will pay \$2.2 million less to the Region, Milton's tax levy basically remains the same, Oakville will pay \$1 million less, but Burlington taxpayers will get hit hard and have to pay \$3.3 million more to Halton.

Regional Council received the MVA impact figures last Wednesday - figures resulting from a compromise deal spear-headed by Bonnette to have 1992 used as the base year for assessing value, not 1988 levels as first planned.

"The picture is better than I thought it would be," Bonnette said, as he explained that he would support a phase-in program for anyone whose taxes will increase because of the implementation of MVA on Jan. 1, 1996.

Acton's farming community

will see the biggest tax savings with 85 per cent of 668 farm properties paying less next year.

Fifty-seven per cent of local industries will also have a smaller tax bill next year and 61 per cent of commercial properties will pay more. All multi-unit residential properties in Halton Hills - those with more than seven units - will pay more in taxes than this year.

Town Treasurer Andy Koopmans said property owners can call the Town or the Assessment Office to learn what MVA will mean for them.

"Market Value Assessment is good news in total for Halton Hills, but I say that cautiously because it is not good news for 41 per cent of home owners, whose taxes will increase," Koopmans said Friday.

"MVA is a fairer distribution of the tax load because now taxes

will be based on common values and a common base and that's good news whether taxes increase or decrease," Koopmans said.

A small sampling of Acton homeowners showed a tax decrease of \$109 for a home in the Bovis subdivision, a \$190 tax decrease for a Dublin Line home and a \$30 decrease for a 2-year-old Pearl Court home.

A check of three Acton businesses showed two would have tax decreases of \$1,209 and \$1,927 and one would have a \$45 jump.

Of the two Acton industries surveyed, one would have a \$6,700 decrease in taxes next year and one a \$2,832 decrease.

All three of the Acton farm properties checked will spend fewer tax dollars next year. Two will save approximately \$2,000 and one will save \$1,562.

## Your Opinion Counts! School Council Policy and Procedures Committee for the Halton Board of Education

School Council policy and procedures are being developed by the Halton Board of Education. Interested parents and community members are invited to apply for membership on the Policy and Procedures Committee.

By June 1996 each elementary and secondary school is required by the Ministry of Education and Training to establish a school council. Council members will provide advice on school-wide matters.

- Five parents, representing the elementary and/or secondary panels and the three geographical areas, will be chosen by lottery from the applicants.
- Two Halton community members, who are public school tax supporters without children in the Halton system, will be selected by lottery as well.
- Meeting dates and times will be established when our committee members are appointed.

For an application, please contact your local school principal or Carol Jack, Halton Board of Education, 2050 Guelph Line, Burlington, L7R 3Z2  
Telephone: (905) 332-2231 Fax: (905) 319-9261  
**Application deadline: September 27, 1995**

Diane Leblovic  
Chair of the Board



Bob Williams  
Director of Education

"Pursuing Excellence in Education  
Through Commitment and Service"



**BEEFY ORDER!** Al and Janet Cunneyworth of Al and Al's Meats cooked this 120-pound roast of beef that was sold by Mr. Mugs at their fair booth on the weekend. Al is now offering both meat and barbecue equipment for Actonites who want to hold cookouts at their homes. (Doug Harrison photo)

## Now Accepting New Clients



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# 40?

## I demand a re-count!

# Happy Birthday Councillor!

This ad paid for by the friends of Rick Bonnette Campaign