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HOMETOWN PAPER, NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS!

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1995

Leathertown Festival cancelled?

BY KAREN WETMORE
 The Acton Tanner

Acton's fifth annual Leathertown Festival will be cancelled, say the organizers of last year's hugely successful event.

The four-person organizing committee say they don't have the time to put together a festival for 1996. They are appealing to the people of Acton to help keep the festival going by volunteering.

A meeting held to attract volunteers last Tuesday failed to bring anyone interested in the festival, despite being advertised in *The Tanner* and the BIA newsletter.

"It's very disappointing," said Olev Richling, who organized the promotions and advertising for last year's festival. "People said it was a great festival, so you would think they'd want to keep it going."

Richling and his fellow com-

mittee members - Janis Fread, Jo Lister and Ellie Tuitman - put together the 1995 festival with little outside help.

"All four of us have other commitments, other community involvements and jobs that take up a lot of our time," Richling said, explaining their decision to cancel the event.

Committee positions available include a chairperson and five convenors for the following areas: vendors (crafts, business and community groups), entertainment, promotion and advertising, rentals and maintenance. In past years, monthly meetings have been held from January to August with the festival being held the first Sunday after the August long weekend. The date for a possible 1996 Leathertown Festival is Aug. 11.

"We'd give any new volunteers

all the background information they needed, plus the tools to get started," Richling said. "Otherwise, it just won't happen."

The Halton Hills Tourism Com-

mittee organized the festival for its first three years, with the Acton BIA taking over last year. Mill Street was closed to traffic and 6,000 people attended, making it

the largest festival to date.

Anyone interested in helping with the festival can call Richling at 853-5534 or Janis Fread at 853-0239.

Bonnette requests MVA open house

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
 The Acton Tanner

At the insistence of Acton Councillor Rick Bonnette, Town staff are attempting to arrange an Acton location for an open house on the impact that Market Value Assessment (MVA) has on local property tax bills.

When informed that the Ministry of Revenue would hold open houses in Georgetown the week of November 20, Bonnette appealed for at least one in Acton.

"There are a lot of people in Acton who face big (property tax) increases and I'm surprised that there isn't going to be an open house in Acton," Bonnette said.

"There are a lot of seniors and others whose taxes are going up

who will be forced to drive to Georgetown. Is there no way to accommodate at least one day for Acton?" Bonnette wondered.

Staff noted the times and locations are set by the ministry but promised to take Bonnette's concerns to them. They warned it may be too late to make changes.

That caution prompted Bonnette to comment that the assessors "have to remember who they work for." Bonnette also suggested that simple, clear language be used when explaining how people can appeal their assessment.

When MVA is implemented on Jan. 1, 66 per cent of property owners will pay more taxes, although on the whole, the Town will pay \$2.1 million less.



WHAT A TEAM!

Jacquelyn Klooster, 5, and Steven Wolstenholme, 3, successfully made it the end pylon to drop their foam toys at the arena on Friday. They are preschoolers learning to skate as part of a program run by the Town Recreation and Parks Department. (Doug Harrison photo)

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