

Looking back: the people and events shaping 1995

Ed. note: Karen Wetmore, our newest staff member, spent some time reading back-issues of The Tanner to bring this "Year in Review." See next week's Tanner for the second half of 1995.

January

HALTON CABLE IMPOSES NEGATIVE-OPTION BILLING: Halton Cable goes against Rogers Cablesystems' decision to back off with its controversial new billing system. The system billed cable customers for new stations unless they notified Halton Cable that they didn't want to receive them. Widespread consumer anger prompted Rogers to change their billing methods.

ACTON HIGH SCHOOL BECOMES SMOKE-FREE: A Ministry of Health decision to ban smoking on school property forces students to light up on the west side of Pearl Court, a smoking area off of school property. Some residents are angry about the ciga-

rette butts and other garbage left behind, while students say they're more concerned with the cold temperatures rather than the smoking area being moved.

HOLMGREN SENTENCED TO 7 YEARS: Acton baby-sitter Heather Holmgren receives a 7-year jail term for causing the death of 6-month-old Daniel Spencer and assaulting a second infant, Colleen Maslen in 1993. Evidence showed both children had been violently shaken. Justice James H. Clarke advises Holmgren to get psychiatric help in prison, "so that you are no longer a menace to society."

RE-COUNT BRINGS NO CHANGE: Halton Hills rural councillors Kathy Gastle and Rob Heaton retain their Ward 2 seats following a re-count of the votes. Third-place finisher in the November election, Kevin Kuiack, asked for the re-count after receiving 23 fewer votes than the 1,202 votes which both Gastle and Heaton received.

February

COUNCIL APPROVES ARENA COSTS: After years of delays, Town council approves spending \$400,000 for the design and construction for a new arena in Acton during capital budget debates. The proposed timetable for the arena, to be located north of Hwy. 7 and east of Churchill Road, would have construction beginning in the fall of 1996 and opening one year later.

POMEROY AND ARNOLD ACQUITTED: Former Halton Chair Peter Pomeroy and Halton Hills lawyer Bert Arnold are found not guilty of bribery and breach of trust. Justice James H. Clarke said the Crown had only suspicion and innuendo, but no proof to convict the two accused.

HADFIELD TRAINS WITH FRENCH CYCLING TEAM: Acton cyclist Tim Hadfield heads to France for a four-month racing stint with Riomois, a national team. The 23-year-old cyclist said he would use the time for intense training and learning rather than trying to win every race.

FIRE DESTROYS ACTON HOME: A fire, which started in a garage, spread to and destroyed the home of Ken Hurren, on the Third Line. Hurren and his two sons, Ryan and Luke, escaped the early morning blaze. Damage estimates came in at \$200,000.

March

COUNCIL SAYS NO TO

UPGRADING: Halton Hills Council refuses to endorse Business Improvement Area (BIA) plans to upgrade Mill Street. Proposed revitalization of the downtown core included sidewalk improvements, pedestrian islands with planters, trees and benches and an ambitious signage program. Council agreed to send the BIA's proposal to the capital budget committee for debate.

MCINTYRE FUELS, TUITMAN'S WIN AWARDS: The Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce recognizes McIntyre Fuels Ltd. and Tuitman's Garden Centre at its business achievement awards ceremony. Entrepreneur of the Year went to McIntyre Fuels and a Civic Pride award was presented to Tuitman's. Winners were determined on their maintenance of their business property, their history in the community and their role as a contributing business in town.

JACK TANNER'S MOVES TO BLUE SPRINGS: Jack Tanner's Table merges with Mulligan's Grill at the Blue Springs Golf Club, from its former location at the olde Hide House. Co-owner Rick Glugosh said the move was the most logical decision for all parties. Customer counts at Jack Tanner's had not been as high as expected, which in part prompted the move.

SANTA FALLS SHORT: The 1994 Santa Claus Parade suffers a net loss of \$1,070.72 after breaking even the previous year. Parade

organizer Bill Spielvogel said plans for the 1995 parade would continue despite the loss.

CITIZENS' BAND MAKES AGREEMENT WITH TOWN: The Acton Citizens' Band settles a dispute with the Town over \$4,600 of assessed property taxes. The band was billed for the taxes when it was discovered the Town did not own the Band Hall on Wallace Street. The 123-year-old band then affiliated itself with the Halton Hills Recreation and Parks department, placing its budget within the department's spending plan.

POLICE RELEASE 1994 CRIME STATISTICS: In Halton Hills, the most dramatic change in crime statistics from 1993 to 1994 is possession of stolen property, up by 90 per cent. Staff Sergeant Ron Welsh explains that better identification of stolen property is the reason. More people are tending to record serial numbers, allowing police to identify the property as stolen and make convictions.

April

COUNCIL VOTES FOR NO NEW TAXES: For the fourth year in a row, Town councillors vote for a zero per cent increase in municipal services on residents' property tax bill. Urban property owners will pay \$611, while similarly assessed rural property owners will pay \$449 (excluding gar-

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PLUG IN

ALTON HILLS YDRO

YOUR ELECTRIC WATER HEATER

The electric water heater is one of those appliances we don't often think about. One thing you can do, however, is to make sure your tank is set at 140 degrees Fahrenheit (60 degrees Celsius). This is the water temperature that manufacturers recommend. If you have a new model or rental tank, it's likely to already be set at this temperature.

Why 140°F? Higher temperatures than this increase the risk of scalding and increase your costs. Lower temperatures could facilitate bacteria growth. And, 140°F allows for the best and most efficient use of dishwashers.

You can check your water temperature by running the hot water from the tap nearest the water heater into a cup for a few minutes. If a cooking thermometer registers close to 140°F, you have the right temperature.

We don't recommend you try to change your tank thermostat yourself. Unless you understand how to do it safely, there is the possibility of serious electrical shock.

ALTON HILLS YDRO

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ENERGY HINTS

Hot Water Use

Showers Not Baths!

Take quick showers instead of baths. And a good quality energy efficient shower head can reduce the amount of hot water used for a shower by 50 to 75%.



Fix Leaking Taps

A leaking tap at one drop per second wastes 800 litres (175 gallons) of hot water per month. In most cases worn tap washers are the culprit.

Insulate

Hot Water Pipes

Insulate the first 1 to 2 meters (3 to 6 feet) of hot water pipe from your water heater. Also consider insulating your hot water tank.

