

# Clean up Fairy Lake waters, urge Prospect Park planners

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The Acton Tanner

Fewer geese, more music and a major clean up topped the wish lists of many Acton residents at a Town-run workshop last week, designed to help make long-range plans for Prospect Park.

Working with a stripped-down map of the Park and Lake some 60 participants were told to then put back on the map the features, activities and things they would like to see in the park.

From the cut and paste session a number of similar approaches emerged from the groups, including the need for a park clean up, which consultant Ann Lawlor said was an overwhelming response.

"There wasn't a person in the place who didn't agree the water quality has got to be improved somehow," Lawlor explained in an interview on Friday.

"Everybody said that somehow we've got to get rid of, or control the geese in some way, because they just

spoil the park for so many people.

"People really think that Prospect Park is a treasure – a spectacular jewel for Acton and one of the Town's best features that could really be improved with a clean up." Lawlor was surprised that almost every group at the workshop said there needed to be more music in the park, that people wanted concerts and a band shell, like in the old days.

Workshop participants also took it as a foregone conclusion that the Acton Agricultural Society would continue to use the park for the Fall Fair and that plans to rebuild an exhibit building once the arena was demolished would be accommodated.

Bryan Shynal, the Town's Manager of Parks and Cemeteries, said he was impressed with the "community mindedness" of the participants.

"The various plans didn't appear at all parochial – they all considered the fact that

Prospect Park is a community park and it's not there to serve one particular community interest," Shynal explained on Friday, adding that people looked at broader historical interests and environmental concerns.

"Workshop participants were not only looking forward, they were remembering how the park has evolved and what it's evolved from, including home of the Fall Fair," Shynal said.

"They were looking backwards and forwards and I was impressed with what they came up with."

The consultant's report to Council will include information from the workshop, a telephone survey and a questionnaire and will help the Town deal with the future evolution of the Park.

Shynal said most Town parks had developed on an ad hoc basis. The next step would be to do site plans for each one, and in the case of Prospect Park, use the workshop information to develop something the public wants.

# Train delay time questioned

## MUNICIPAL DIGEST

Being held up by a slow moving train for six to eight minutes recently at Acton's main rail crossing prompted Acton Councillor Rick Bonnette to ask for a staff report on any regulations governing how long trains can stop.

Bonnette complained that basically the Town of Acton came to a stop a few weeks ago at about 6:46 pm when the freight very slowly made its way through town.

Bonnette said there were

at least 30 to 40 cars backed up on either side of the tracks.

"Is there a contingency plan if the fire and emergency services couldn't get across (the tracks)?" Bonnette asked, adding that he didn't want to alarm anyone, but had concerns and questioned if the train also blocked the Main Street North crossing.

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Town staff have promised to re-grade the Sixth Line north of Hwy. 7 if it needs it, following an urgent appeal from Ward 2 Councillor Kevin

Kuiack, who said he was afraid he was going to end up in the ditch when he went to check out the road after receiving a call from an "irate" resident.

Kuiack noted the previous grading had been done during a downpour and it needed to be re-graded to prevent another accident.

Sixth Line residents have repeatedly requested improvements be made on their unpaved road following a series of accidents they blame on poor grading, loose gravel and potholes.



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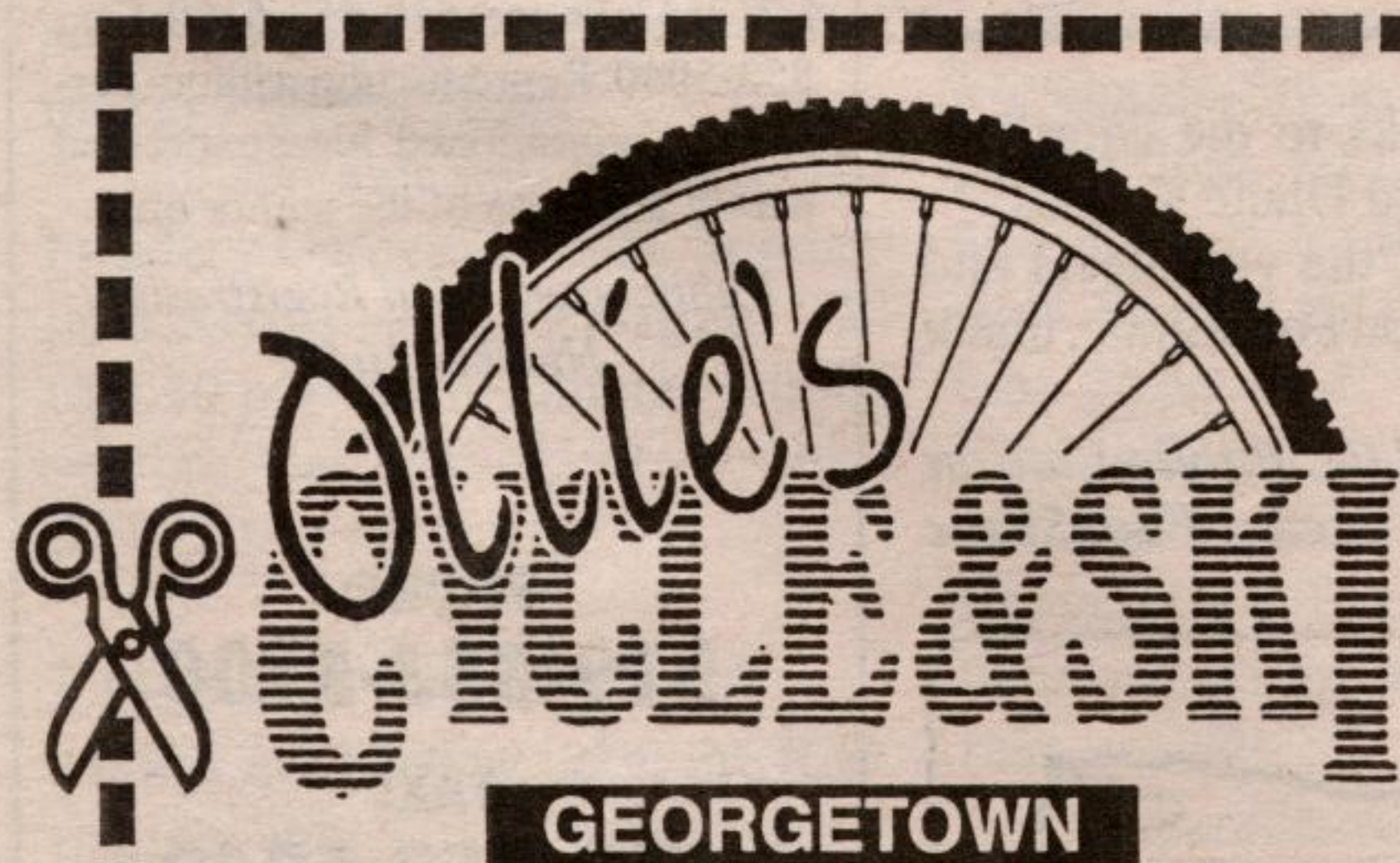
The Acton Tanner Carrier of the Month is Patrick Bannon, a Grade 7 student at McKenzie-Smith Bennett School. He has been a Tanner carrier for nearly a year and does an excellent job. When he's not delivering papers, he enjoys playing road hockey, Lego, computers and watching TV.

Patrick says the worst part of being a Tanner carrier is the cold and the wind. The best part is the pay – of course! Congratulations Patrick!

Patrick will receive a delicious pizza from Andy's, where quality and tradition make the difference. Andy's Restaurant – serving the best to Acton since 1978!

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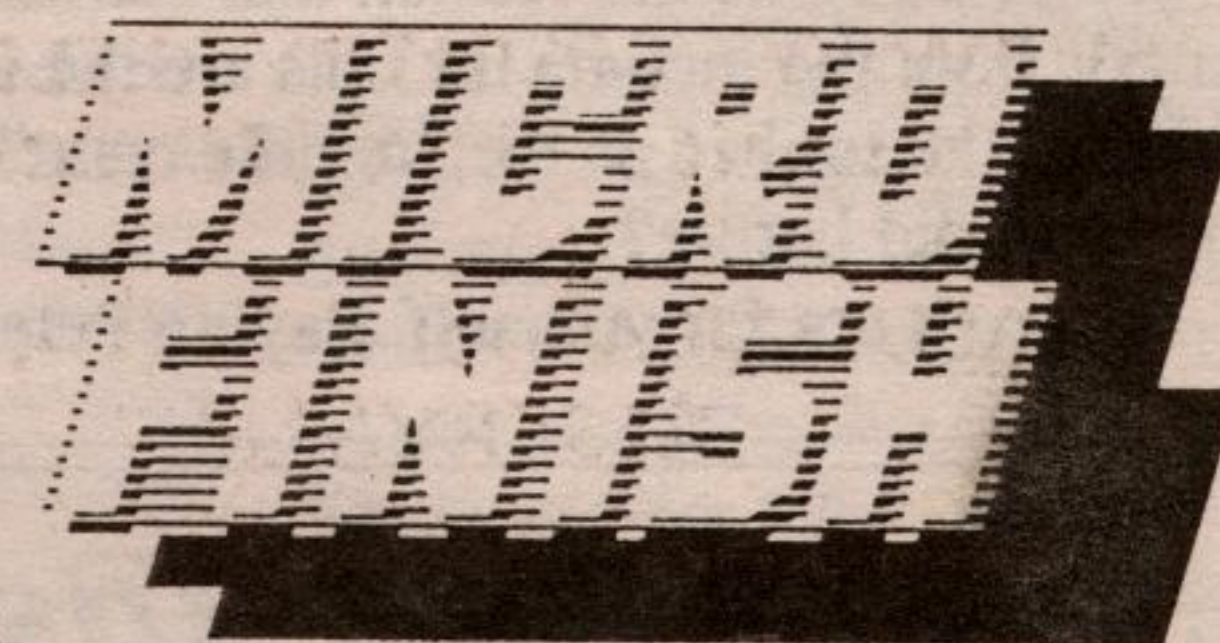
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