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'ACTON'S OWN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER'

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1996

BETWEEN THE COVERS...



The year in review: a look back at the first half of 1996.
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Artist Stephen Stanley is enjoying his rather eclectic career.
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No mega-city needed or wanted by Actonites—history need not repeat itself.
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Need an idea for New Year's celebrations? Check out what Harvey Dewhurst will be doing!
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Enjoy looking back at Rockwood's recent past—1996, from January to June.
...Page 17

Racking up points in the Acton Minor Hockey Association, plus Christmas tournament news.
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HOLD ON TIGHT!

Off to a good start at St. Joseph's School hill last Friday were James Begg, 3, his brother Taylor, 5 with dad Jay doing all the work. The Christmas snowfall was just enough for the brothers to enjoy a few runs down the hill on their new sleds. (Karen Wetmore photo)

What 1996 brought to Acton

COMPILED BY KAREN WETMORE
With another year come and gone, The Tanner has once again come up with the main events that shaped Acton and its residents in 1996.

January

POLICE HIRED TO PATROL MIDGET HOCKEY GAMES: Spectators' fighting, intimidation of visiting fans, littering the ice with coins and verbal assaults on players and referees forced the Acton Sabres Minor

Hockey Association to hire pay-duty police to patrol some Midget games. The Town began a no tolerance attitude following some rowdy games, and warned spectators they would be barred from the arena for one year if they misbehave.

ACTION FOR ACTON DISBANDED: Wendy Blair, chair of the two-year-old community group, cited "a lack of interest" as the main reason for the group's folding. The group's contributions included the Trunk Sale,

Leathertown Festival and a week-long carnival for all Acton schools.

MILL EXPANSION PLANS APPROVED: Town councillors compromised with Halton Flour Milling, approving its expansion plans while rejecting a proposal to rezone its site in the Mill-Church Streets neighbourhood as industrial. Some mill neighbours objected that the mill should be able to expand in a residential area, and had concerns with the increased noise and truck traf-

fic this would create.

QUARRY DUMP PROPOSAL RE-OPENED: Reclamation Systems Incorporated (RSI) again proposed to the Ontario Municipal Board for the turning of a mined-out portion of the Acton Quarry into a massive landfill site.

February

NEIGHBOURS CONCERNED ABOUT WELL WATER: A proposed eight-lot Bannockburn subdivision

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Great season for selling

BY JAMIE HARRISON
The Acton Tanner

If there seemed to be a few more presents under the tree for you this year, some local merchants know why—they sold them and their shelves are nearly bare.

After a series of less than impressive Christmas shopping seasons, retailers are jingling all the way to the bank, having experienced marked increases in consumer spending this past season as a result of lower unemployment, a stronger dollar, and increased consumer confidence.

Sharon Vincent of Freezer Frenzy was happy with this season's sales, noting an improvement from last year.

"Things were good. Actually, there was a slight increase (over last year)," Vincent said.

Vincent noted that popular items, as expected, were turkeys and gift baskets, staples of the holiday season.

Steve Dawkins of the olde Hide House was very pleased with this year's Christmas and Boxing Week sales, despite some unpleasant weather, which may have kept some potential shoppers at home.

"We're very pleased," Dawkins said. "We are well up over last Christmas season. We had a really strong season. Our
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