



THE ACTON TANNER

Hometown Paper • Neighbourhood News

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'ACTON'S OWN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER'

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1997

BETWEEN THE COVERS...



The Acton Agricultural Society is interested in using the present arena building for the Fall Fair...**Page 2**

Acton's former fire hall is purchased by Heritage Acton for \$2...**Page 4**

Net and World Wide Web users should be able to keep young children from certain areas of the information highway...**Page 5**

Needed: volunteers for the Special Needs Drop-in Program at the Acton Legion...**Grapevine, Page 7**

End of winter not in sight? Why not sue Warton Willie - Rockwood lawyer Doug Black is!...**Page 14**

Rockwood student Michael Tilson speaks on his award-winning speech on why he hates TV commercials...**Page 15**

Future of Prospect Park to be studied

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Acton Tanner
 The process to determine the long-term future of Prospect Park - perhaps Acton's best feature and best-kept secret - is underway with Town Council's direction to staff to prepare a terms of reference to guide preparation of a master plan.

This master plan will set out a clear direction for long-term future development, redevelopment and management of the park and Fairy Lake, described by one councillor as the "jewel of Halton Hills."
 In summarizing a consultant's report on public opinion about the park and lake, the Town's Acting Director

of Recreation and Parks, Bryan Shynal, said the consensus is that the potential of the lake and park as a combined community resource is under-realized because of its design, development, maintenance and programming. Councillors agreed that the consultant's findings will be used by Council as a reference when dealing with is-

ssues affecting future changes to Prospect Park and Fairy Lake.
 The consultation process included a public meeting which highlighted several themes, including the desire to see the park become a community focal point, to rehabilitate the lake to improve water quality, to limit and control the pollution-causing

ducks and geese and to bring music and entertainment back to the park.
 Following the meeting Shynal said an important part of the process will be the Acton Agricultural Society's decisions about the old arena and whether it will be rehabilitated or demolished.
See Page 2 for more on the Agricultural Society's views on the arena building...



BUDDING ARTISTS!

The Bread Basket Bakery chose its three winners for its Valentine's Day colouring contest last Friday. Six-year-old Evan Colvin, left, Megan Paul, 3, and Kimberly Roberts, 12 picked up prizes to give to their special Valentine as well as \$25 gift certificates for the bakery. Watch *The Tanner* for the Bread Basket's next contest, which will be held before Easter. (Karen Wetmore photo)

Budget debates begin

The calculators are charged and the pencils sharpened as Town Council begins line-by-line debate of this year's budget.
 Heading into the first budget committee meeting after press time Tuesday, councillors had a proposed operating budget which, as directed, would result in no more than a two per cent mill rate increase and a list of possible adjustments which could result in no tax increase.
 Since there's no fat to be cut, the adjustments suggested by staff to bring in a zero per cent mill rate increase would reduce service levels and eliminate staffing requests.
 If the two per cent mill rate increase was approved, a home owner with an average assessment of \$6,400 would pay \$495.70 in Town taxes this year - an increase of \$9.75 from last year.
 Budget meetings, which are open to the public at the Civic Centre, are scheduled for tomorrow (Thursday) and Tuesday, Feb. 25 at 5:30 pm.

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