

Eden bridge is history

The final death warrant for the Eden Mills Bowstring was signed, sealed and delivered by three Ontario Divisional Court judges on June 19th, 1998.

Joe Martin, president of the Friends of Eden Mills released the following statement. "I am disappointed in the judgement. I thought that it was poorly thought through, certainly not of the calibre I had expected from the court. It was acknowledged by both parties that the hearing was about the legality of the processes followed by the Township and not about the merits of the case. In my view, the judgement did not adhere to this criteria and in addition contained a number

BY REID KENNEDY
NORTH HALTON COMPASS

of errors. Despite this, we have accepted the decision and there will be no appeal by the Friends of Eden Mills Inc. When we started this process, the Friends of Eden Mills stated that they would use every legal means available to them to preserve the Bowstring Bridge as a heritage site. We have done that. We have put up a good fight, but it is now over.

In my view, by defining Official Plans as mere guidelines open to interpretation in the broadest terms, the judgement has opened a Pandora's box for governments. As a consequence:

a) Official Plans will lose a lot of their teeth and will be subject to greater challenges in the future

b) protection for heritage in this province will be weakened significantly.

What I have learned during this process is that there is a lot of lip service given to heritage by many governments and government agencies and that the laws dealing with heritage are gutless."

On Monday, June 22nd, McLean and Taylor, the St. Mary's company contracted by the Township of Eramosa to demolish the Bowstring and build the two-lane replacement, commenced work on the site. The successful tender was for \$336,000.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JANET WILSON

CARING COMMUNITY AWARDS FINALIST - Debbie Marshall and Chris Wilson announced on Monday, June 15th that the village of Eden Mills has been chosen as a finalist by the Trillium Foundation for its 1998 Caring Communities Award. In choosing Eden Mills as one of 25 finalists, the Trillium Foundation notes "The hamlet's size has remained as stable as its residents resolve to donate time and money to build a better community." As many as five communities will be recognized at a celebration in Toronto on October 15th. Each 1998 Caring Communities Award Winner will receive a \$20,000 grant for further community work. Debbie Marshall, president of the Eden Mills Community Club, said "This province wide recognition is a tremendous reward for Eden Mills, which has a long history of people working together to solve common problems." Pictured L. to R. are Debbie Marshall, Chris Wilson, Richard Lay in canoe, Ed Vunderink, Lee Wisener, Guelph Reeve Les Foote, Eramosa Reeve David Adsett and Stephanie Ariss.

Prospect Park arena

continued from page 1

over the old arena because it was in such a state of disrepair. After looking into that option, the Fair Board found that the costs would be prohibitive, especially since the community was now trying to raise funds for the new arena.

The Town of Halton Hills then commissioned a study to decide the future of Prospect Park. The results of this study were that there was public support for the Prospect Park location for the Fair, but the recommendation was that the Fair Board not take over the old arena, nor build another structure in that location.

In a meeting held in March of this year, it was decided that if the Acton Agricultural Society agreed to pay for the engineer's report, they could have a stay of execution until the fall of 1998. The Agricultural Society proposed that the money intended to be spent on the demolition of the building be redirected into replacing the roof, which is the major structural problem. The Fair Board would then be able to use the

money from their building fund to do repairs and pay for the overhead required to get the building operational.

Acton councillor Clark Somerville doesn't see any reason for the Prospect Park building and the new arena to have to compete for events or functions, saying; "Personally I think they can carve out two different niches." The Fair Board does not intend to use the building as an arena.

"I'm hoping they're successful," Somerville added. He also stated that the building has always been maintained.

Paul Stover, the Town's Manager of Facilities, said that before investing money, there should be a sound need for the building, and that the cost of operating the building is \$12,000 per year. He also said that besides the annual Fall Fair, he feels there's "no further use for it."

For now the Agricultural Society intends to meet with the town again, as Mr. Varanelli said "to see if they can offer any advice concerning our dilemma."

North Halton Happenings

SATURDAY, JUNE 27

Eden Mills Street Basketball Tournament for teams of all ages, female, male and mixed are eligible. Register as a team or as an individual. Officials from the University of Guelph Gryphons Basketball Team. Registration forms available at the Eden Mills General Store. For information contact Danny Marshall at 519-856-4035.

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

Ontario Genealogical Society, Halton-Peel Branch will be holding its **Annual Cemetery Recording Day** at the Alton Cemetery from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For information contact Ron Hibbert at 416-494-5350 or Lois Russell at 905-843-2076.

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

Dedication Service at 2 p.m. at the Acton Legion in honour of the 39 veterans of World War I and World War II who were killed in action from the Acton, Rockwood, Eden Mills and Nassagaweya areas.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

Dominion Day Grand Celebration at McCrae House, 108 Water Street, Guelph, 12 to 4 p.m. Celebrate the birthday of the Dominion of Canada with heritage displays, demonstrations, refreshments, and music. Free admission. Call 836-1221.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

Haystorical Ride - Visit the Esquesing Historical Society display at the Glen Williams Ball Park from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Hop on the Haystorical ride at 2:00 p.m.

JULY 2 TO LABOUR DAY

150 Years of Freemasonry in Guelph & Wellington County, 6 Dublin St., Guelph. Phone 836-1221 for more information.

SATURDAY, JULY 4

Movie Matinee at Eramosa Community Library. *My Giant*, starring Billy Crystal. Tickets \$1 each; popcorn and pop available.

MONDAY, JULY 13

Fifth Annual Golfing 4 Cancer at Trafalgar Golf & Country Club. In the past four years they've raised \$102,102! Call Mike's Barber Shop, (905) 878-3916 or (905) 878-2141.

JULY 20-24

Vacation Bible School 1998: The churches of Rockwood and area are working together to provide a Christian summer program mornings, 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., at the Rockmosa Community Hall. Children ages 4 to 12, are invited to register by telephone 856-9953 or by mail-in to Ellen Thomson, R.R. #1 Rockwood or by attending our registration evening, July 10, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Saint John's Anglican Church Hall. Fee: \$15.00 per child or \$40.00 per family. We have room for forty children so register early for songs, games, crafts, Bible stories, fun and fellowship together!

Summer Fun Club at McCrae House 9:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., 108 Water Street, Guelph. *Life in John McCrae's Guelph*, includes Animals in the Woods, Clearing the Land, Victorian Sports & Games and more. For ages 5 to 10; \$10 per session. Call 836-1221 for more information.

JULY 17, 18, AND 19

SkyHigh Ballon Festival, Burlington, Ontario's most uplifting summer event, is less than twenty days from its launch. Call 1-877-SKY-SHOW for more information.

SATURDAY, JULY 25

Kite Workshop at the Eramosa Community Library, 1 p.m. Decorating pre-made kites. Pre-register beginning July 4; cost is \$5 per child, aged 5 - 12. Call 856-4851 for more information.

Compass Classifieds

Musical Director Wanted by the Halton Regional Police Chorus, a non-profit group promoting community service through musical entertainment. The chorus practices one night per week for 2-1/2 hours and performs approximately 20-25 times per year. Must be flexible with availability of time. For more information please contact Patricia Wildes at (905) 825-4777, ext. 5042.

For Sale: Vitamaster 2000 Treadmill. New \$2,500; will sell for \$600. Call John Grimshaw, 519-856-4696.

Milton Community Resource Centre
(formerly Milton Children & Youth Centre)
presents our

Summer Camp Blow-out!

For children 6-11 years!

Register for one week at a time or register for the whole summer!

Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

(ask us about our extended hours)

July 6th to August 28th

\$90/child; \$80/additional child

Weekly trips may include:

R.O.M., Metro Zoo, Kelso, Bronte Creek, Science Centre and much more!

For more

information, call

876-1244



Music on the Mountain

Featuring Bluegrass & Country Music
July 19th, 3:00 p.m.

Halton Country Inn

All musicians welcome!

ACTON'S



SIZZLING

SUMMER SAMPLE FEST

History and Ghosts are the two themed walking tours through downtown Acton; along the way you'll sample delicious food at

Red Dog Cafe

Station Hotel

Godfathers

Cones

Clarke's Newfoundland Shop

and

Sweet Dreams Cafe

Tickets in advance (\$8/person) at
Wetherby's 519-853-1633