



BADEN-POWELL HONOURED: Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Ventures, their parents and Scouting leaders honoured Lord Baden-Powell at last Wednesday's 1st Acton B. P. Banquet at Acton High. Brandishing ladles and eagerly waiting for the pot luck dinner were front row, left to right: Philip Conlin, Jesse Ricketts and Evan Colvin. Second row: Rylan Parker, Nick Querques, and Joseph Querques. Third row: Matt Hartnagle, Jean Layman, David Ellis and Brendon Inns. Fourth row: Steve Thompson, Dave Smelsky, Dave Colvin, John Rothwell and Bob Barston.

MSB gets crossing guard

By **FRANCES NIBLOCK**
The New Tanner

Acton mom Pearl Wilson will breathe a little easier at the end of the month.

The Town has agreed to hire a temporary crossing guard on Acton Boulevard in front of McKenzie-Smith Bennett school near where, just over a year ago, her 9-year-old son Steven was struck by a van as he stepped out into traffic heading home from school.

The area has been called "an accident waiting to happen" by school principal Nancy Johnston who said the traffic chaos is compounded by the volume of traffic and

students and recently wrote the Town asking for help.

"A lot of parents will feel a lot better knowing that there will be a crossing guard there," Wilson said in an interview on Friday, adding that teachers have been watching the kids cross for the past couple of weeks.

"I think that there would probably be another accident if a guard wasn't put there."

Wilson also praised the Town for making a number of safety changes after her son's accident, including raising the height of the school crossing signs, cutting the curb to make the crossing area more obvious to the students and clearing the

snow more often this winter so kids didn't have to climb over snow banks.

Council agreed to hire a crossing guard from March 23 to the end of the school year and will also ask the Halton District School Board to identify before the end of June what safety measures it intends to have in place for the start of the school year.

In a report to council recommending that the temporary guard be hired, Town staff said that previous meetings had been held to resolve some of the traffic problems, including redesigning the parking lot and reviewing the bus loading area.

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tech talk

with  **BRYAN & DAN**

QUESTION: I drive a 1991 Jeep Cherokee. The front brake on the passenger side of the car is almost worn out, while the pads on the driver's side have, approximately, 50% wear. Why would the brakes wear out sooner on one side of the car and not the other?

ANSWER: this kind of problem is common to almost all vehicle types. Wear like a seized or binding caliper piston could cause this. This condition would usually result in both the inner and outer pads on the affected side wearing at an accelerated rate.

Another area of concern could be seized caliper slides or pins. This generally causes wear of only one of the two pads.

The pins and slides should be lubricated periodically with silicone-based grease. This grease is water repellant to inhibit rust and is compatible with the rubber components on the caliper (unlike petroleum based products).

Curiously enough, we see this problem more often on the right side. This could be a result of more slush and salt on the right side of the road.

Thanks to the many readers who submitted names for this column. We had suggestions from people who live as far north as Erin and to the south as far as Mississauga. There were many great suggestions, however after careful consideration we would like to congratulate Chris Lawson of Acton for his winning entry

TECH TALK.