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What's Inside



Acton High School drama club is presenting the musical "Grease" in the school auditorium starting tonight (Thursday) and continuing until Saturday with a talented group of students. See Page 3.



Would a new design of hovercraft revolutionize transportation as an Acton entrepeneur believes? He's involved in the production of a new craft that only lacks some fiscal support to make it feasible. See Page 6 for the story.

Is the price of gasoline regulated by the market or are we being manipulated by the big oil companies? An editorial on Page 4 examines the is-



Mary, Mary, quite contrary, how does your garden grow? The New Tanner has a home and garden section in this week's issue to help you enjoy the spring tasks of gardening and home improvements. See Pages 7, 8, 9, and 10.

Two Acton students win gold

Two Acton teachers get pink slips

By FRANCES NIBLOCK The New Tanner

While only two elementary school teachers in Acton have received pink slips from the Halton District School Board, it looks like secondary school teachers could get hit much harder.

The Board is expected to make its secondary school staffing numbers known this week and the implications for high school teachers will be more serious because of reduction in planning time by the Province will result in the need for less teachers.

Traditionally, secondary school teachers have taught six out of eight periods, but proposed changes would have them teach for six and two-thirds periods. Currently there are 981 secondary school teachers in Halton — 40 of them at Acton High.

The Board's superintendent of operations Paul Athony said now that the layoff notices have gone out to the elementary teachers they will begin to staff the schools for September. The two Acton teachers who have been declared excess are Patty Wright and Lisa Hasselfeldt, both first-year instructors.

"There's always more retirements coming in and unforeseen leaves so we will gradually call back from that excess list between now and May 3," Anthony said. "If there's anybody still not recalled, then we declare them redundant and that's the equivalent of a layoff notice."

Anthony said that there is still uncertainty in what the Province's funding formula means to Halton and so the Board requested an extra week for the notification of the layoffs to try to get a better handle on how many teachers it will need.



AS A BOY SHANE ADAMS dreamed of being a knight in shining armour, of jousting with the likes of Sir Lancelot and other knights of the round table. Now the Acton resident is enjoying his dream. See Page 11 for a sojourn into medieval times.

Watch where you park!

Acton motorists beware - a number of changes have been made in the Town's uniform traffic bylaw that affect where you can, and can't, legally park. The changes were made in response to citizen complaints and development.

· The existing No Parking zone on the west side of Churchill Road will be extended through the intersection at McDonald Boulevard to a point 30 m northerly in response to a complaint that a car was constantly parked right at the stop sign.

· Two private driveways on the east side of Willow Street across from St. Alban's Drive shouldn't be blocked any longer as a 12 m No Parking zone has been approved for

the area north of Bower Street.

· St. Joseph's Church members will no longer be able to park on the east side of John Street between Church and Agnes Streets following complaints from residents that they couldn't safely get in and out of their driveways. To open up some on-street parking an unneeded No Parking zone on the north side of Agnes Street, from John to Elgin Streets. will be removed. Parking remains banned on the south side of that part of Agnes Street.

· Construction of Acton's newest road -Dairy Drive- in the West Meadows subdivision necessitated installation of a Stop sign at Wallace Street and a Yield sign at an internal intersection.

Skills contest brings out talents

By FRANCES NIBLOCK The New Tanner

Acton High's supremacy in architectural and mechanical CAD (computer aided design) continues unchallenged following a skills competition for Halton schools on the weekend in Georgetown.

Four of the 12 Acton students entered in the annual competition came home with medals including OAC student Jamie Birrell who received a gold medal in the architectural CAD competition and Grade 12 student Don MacKay who won the gold in the cabinet making competition.

As well, Nick Fread won silver in the architectural CAD competition and Ray Seeger took the silver in the mechanical CAD competition. Birrell and MacKay advance to the Ontario Skills competition in Kitchener next month

"Acton students have a long history of success in CAD competitions - we've had five previous National medal winners, including Jamie Birrell who took the silver last year," explained Acton High drafting teacher Norbert Axtmann in an interview on Monday.

"We have really good kids and the dedicated staff provide the mechanism for the students to go as far as they want. We had an excellent showing and all of the students who competed should be proud."

Axtmann said that Birrell was the man to beat in architectural CAD - and nobody could.

"Jamie's work was the most detailed and most complete. He was one of only two students who attempted a bonus 3-D drawing and he clearly dominated the competition.'

The architectural CAD competitors played the role of

See ACTON, Page 12

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