

Depart July 2, 7, 9, 14, 16/98 Return July 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23/98

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What's Inside



Look for our special graduation section in this week's issue, starting at Page 7.



Wasn't that a party? The annual Legion barbecue was a swinging time. See Page 6.



Michael Vandenhoek claimed a dirt bike championship. See the sports pages.

Deadlines moved up

Next Wednesday, July 1, is Canada Day and, of course, a national holiday. The New Tanner will be closed so staff can enjoy the holiday.

Because of the shorter week the deadline for advertising is 12 noon on Monday, June 29. Advertisers are urged to contact advertising representatives as soon as possible. News deadline is Tuesday, June 30 at noon.

The New Tanner will be published on Thursday, July 2, as usual.

Acton Library celebrates 100 years

Vandals torch recycle bins

By FRANCES NIBLOCK The New Tanner

The Region has closed its Third Line rural recycling depot in Acton because of repeated vandalism including two incidents of arson in as many days. On Tuesday night, for the third time in four years, vandals torched one of the recycling bins located in front of the waste treatment plant on Churchill Road South. This, just hours after Regional waste management officials decided to close the depot because of fires set at the site on the weekend.

Just after 1 a.m. Sunday morning three of the recycling bins - known as Igloos and used by rural residents who don't have curb side Blue Box recycling - were set on fire and badly damaged. One of the remaining three Igloos, filled with newspaper and cardboard, was torched just after 10 p.m. on Tuesday night. Acton fire fighters responded to the call and doused the fire. Rural residents who normally used the recycling are encouraged to go to the Town depot at the Trafalgar Road works yard.

Acton Councillor Rick Bonnette called it the work of "senseless, brainless van-

"These Igloos were there for environmental purposes to encourage those who don't have Blue Boxes to recycle. It's most unfortunate and flies in the face of Mother Nature."

Last year 115 metric tonnes of recyclable materials were collected at the five Acton Igloos - 78 tonnes was paper products and the balance glass and containers.



HEALTHY COMMUNITY: Halton Region launched its "Healthy Community Fund" recently at headquarters in Oakvillle. Local representative taking part are Lang Moffat, United Way of Milton, Regional Councillor John Day, Halton Hills, Councillor Cindy Lunau, Milton and Mayor Marilyn Serjeantson, Halton Hills.

Farmers happy with early crops

May's hot dry weather has Acton area berry growers already enjoying the fruits of their labours. The dry heat was a superb start to the growing season - strawberry crops are weeks early and first cut hay yields have been good, putting local farmers in an optimistic mood.

Soya bean crops were planted early in this area, but because of the heat had "uneven emergence" and those seeds that laid in the dry soil began to sprout with last week's rain.

"The winter wheat crop is progressing well and with the rain the heads are beginning to fill with grain," explained Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, soil and crop adviser, Bob Hamilton last Thursday.

"The first cut of hay for livestock is about 75 per cent completed with excellent quality, but some reduced quantity because of the dry, droughty conditions. That one-and-a-half to two inches of rain in the Acton area last week was enough to allow regrowth for the second cutting," Hamilton said, adding that the vegetable and fruit

crops are coming along well. Ministry agricultural rep

John Smith said the local corn crops that were frosted in early June have either been replanted, or have recovered and are growing out of it. Smith said farmers were

happy with the dry heat of May because they got off to an early start.

"Farmers are optimists and we're a long way from having the grain in the bin but the potential is there to have some really excellent yields," Smith explained in

a recent interview, adding that market prices have been under pressure and have been slipping for beans and corn.

Smith warned strawberry lovers not to wait too long to get their berries because the crop will be over by the end of the month.

Farming and livestock production was a \$120 million dollar business in Halton last year with approximately \$35 million coming from Halton Hills where roughly 40,000 acres of is cropped each year.

Special party on Saturday

Avid readers, book lovers, library staff and patrons will celebrate 100 years of free public library service in Acton with a special party on Saturday at the River Street branch. Many things have changed at the library over the years - including automation and the move to River Street in 1967 - but many things remain the same, including a history of cramped, over crowded facilities.

Halton Hills chief librarian, Betsy Cornwell said the unfortunate conclusion of a recent library service master plan is that without major development in Acton, there's no money to expand existing or build new library facilities.

Cornwell said given the nature of the building in Acton all they can do is continue to fine tune the type of service offered.

"Finding the balance between Acton's ageing population, which does more reading, and the needs of the younger generation coming along is going to continue to be a tricky balancing act," Cornwell said in an interview on Saturday.

While Acton has more material for recreational reading than people are using, Cornwell is concerned that the local branch doesn't have the depth in other ar-

"We suspect the school libraries are going to deteriorate significantly over next few years...and that puts a lot of pressure on the public library which couldn't even begin to meet the needs of Grade 5 through 12 students who engaged in projects on a regular basis," Cornwell said, adding that the situation in Acton is "close to critical," if the school libraries fail to deliver.

Future library plans

While Cornwell predicts she will be retired before any decision is made about new library facilities for Acton, she said if all of the growth planned for Acton occurs on

See LIBRARY, Page 2

No June tax bill

Halton Hills taxpayers don't have to make a June property tax payment - the final tax installment of the year yet. Because Queens Park is late in getting the tax rolls back to municipalities, the Tonw has not been able to set its final 1998 tax rate which will determine tax amounts...

For those taxpayers on the Town's due-date pre-authorized payment plan the normal due date in June has been delayed and once the rate rates has been set the Town will be able to determine the due date and the amount owed. For those on the Town's monthly pre-authorized program, the usual amount will be withdrawn and adjusted later, if necessary.

Halton Hills Treasurer Andy Koopmans said the delay is a headache.

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