



**ANOTHER SUCCESS STORY:** Acton Auto Tech held its Grand Re-opening on Saturday. Staff were on hand to serve up hotdogs and hamburgers to their customers in appreciation for their business. From left are Greg Russell, Richard Leslie, Floyd Foster, Trevor Gardener and Norm Foster. — Angela Tyler photo

## Mac Sprowl's plan would save arena by public subscription

Acton resident Mac Sprowl is convinced that Acton and area residents would support a "Save the Arena" campaign much like they did in 1961 to renovate and install artificial ice in the Prospect Park Arena, then in a dilapidated state.

A committee composed of Chairman John Goy, Treasurer Lorne Youngblut, Campaign Chairman house to house Gordon McCutcheon, Industry and Business Gordon Beatty, Rural Area Nino Braida, Rural Area Mac Sprowl and Publicity Chairman Jim Ledger set the campaign total at \$60,000, a large sum in 1961 probable comparable to the \$600,000 today. Every house, business and industry in Acton was canvassed as well as the rural areas including the hamlets of Ballinafad, Limehouse, Brookville, Moffat, Rockwood and Eden Mills.

The 120 canvassers were divided into four areas with a team captain in each. Before the campaign stated on May 11, 1961, the committee had pledges from local organizations and individuals totally several thousand dollars. By May 18, 400 calls had been made and \$36,000 raised. By May 25, the total reached \$49,492 and it was raised to \$55,000. On June 19, the committee was only \$1,000 short of their goal with \$59,000 in cash, post dated cheques and payroll deductions. The average pledge was \$168 from approximately 5,000 people, business and industry, Mac relates.

Four days later, the campaign went over its goal by

\$5,000 for a total of \$64,000, all of it raised by citizens, industry and business.

The first puck was dropped for the newly renovated arena with its artificial ice on December 21, 1961, a scant seven months after the project started.

Mac Sprowl, former Sheriff of Halton, envisions another campaign which would accomplish the renovation necessary to save the build-

ing which Actonians had so generously contributed to saving in 1961.

He estimates they could raise almost \$620,000 by public subscription and \$80,000 the Fair Board has in a building fund. He has not included the amount the Town has set aside — \$139,000 for demolishing the arena in his plan but obviously it should be available.

## Council balks at naming economic development director

By FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The New Tanner

If Halton Hills is serious about attracting growth it should hire a Director of Economic Development to signal that Halton Hills is "open for business."

"And, that's not always the case," said consultant Martin Rendl who presented an industrial strategy study to councillors recently. The study will be used as a blueprint for economic development and marketing in Halton Hills and while most councillors agree with the concept, no one is ready to hire anyone, yet.

"It would be nice to hire that person but I don't actually believe that we have the financial capabilities to do it at this time," Serjeantson explained on Friday.

Acton Councillor Rick Bonnette said it's premature to create a full-time eco-

nomie development position and suggested they could hire support staff for Planning Director Bruce MacLean.

Acton Councillor Clark Somerville said when and if the position was created it

should be a short-term contract. Councillor Norman Elliott suggested that they would be in a better position to hire someone once services for the 401 corridor in Halton Hills are further along.

Effective August 1, 1998

the phone number for  
**Dr. D.W. Vanderbent**  
will change to  
**(519) 853-0063**

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*Dr. Vanderbent will continue to accept new patients*

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### 7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LEATHERTOWN FESTIVAL

SUNDAY AUGUST 9<sup>TH</sup>  
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Downtown Acton will be wall-to-wall fun and excitement on Sunday August 9th! Thanks to the generous support of our sponsors, there will be more entertainment, more street buskers and more interactive events than ever before. The *Cheri Lindsay Dance Studio* dancers will be the vibrant opening act on the stage at noon, followed by the *George Grosman Duo*. Line dancers, baton dancers and acro dancers from the *Flamingo Dance Studio* will perform next and at 3 p.m. we'll head down memory lane with the *Royal Oaks Stage Band*, a lively 18 member swing band, followed by our own *Acton Citizens' Band* at 4 p.m. The children's village will be 6 tents of story time, face painting, fish pond and lots more activities for little ones. The Kellogg's Karavan will offer all kinds of interactive fun for kids — there's everything from Corn Pops "Back Street Boys Karaoke" to Froot Loops "Life Size Adventure Board Game" and visits from Kellogg's characters. Make sure to stop by the Acton Fall Fair's Dunk Tank and try your hand at the Can Smash at the United Way booth. The T.G.I. Friday's Blendedmobile will be serving up frosty flavourful drinks and there's lots of street vendors signed up for the day.

Festival organizers extend our thanks to our great sponsors: Halton Hills Hydro, Eagle Ottawa, Bruce Hood Travel, Park Lincoln Mercury, Georgetown Toyota Sales, Independent/Free Press, Peter Zions Construction, Daniel Varanelli CGA, Acton Auto Sales and Haulage, Galvcast Manufacturing, Superior Glove Works, Carquest, Blue Circle Aggregates, Ultimate Auto Care, Metro Pavement Markings Ltd., CIBC, ScotiaBank, Halton Credit Union, the Bank of Montreal and the Acton BIA.

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