



Susan (McGilloway) Robson, left, was honoured as the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce Employee of the Year at an awards banquet at the Acton Arena and Community Centre last year. Susan, a blood collection and lab worker at Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital, accepted her award from Chamber president Pat Hatch, of Acton.

Looking back at 1998...

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be here and I hope it's a start, a catalyst, to more development in town. How could you not be happy, walking in here?"

§ Major renovations take place at the old Canadian Tire building, which will be home to the relocated Lakeview Flooring and Kitchens and a new video store.

§ Former YMCA owner Diane Biggs's plans to rezone the Mill Street building for apartments and commercial uses are circulated by the Town. The building was constructed in 1934 with a bequest from the Murray family.

§ Concerned parents look for ways to slow and control traffic on Acton Boulevard that the principal of McKenzie-Smith Bennett calls "an accident waiting to happen."

§ Halton police report they don't know why crime is up in all but three reportable categories. Assaults were up 45 per cent over the year before and in Acton while theft offences, property offences and break and enter also all increased.

§ Acton's Purity Life, a national wholesale distributor of health and beauty products, undergoes a major multi-million dollar expansion on Commerce Crescent.

§ Acton's worst kept secret was officially confirmed late last week - Blue Springs Golf Club has been sold to ClubLink Corporation for an undisclosed sum. ClubLink, the largest operator of private golf clubs in Canada, announced Thursday that Blue Springs was one of eight 18-hole and two 9-hole golf courses it had purchased in the Greater Toronto Area.

§ Acton's Jacob Kentner's goal late in the third period cinched the "B" Division Peewee tournament in Acton. The Select Peewee team edged Stoney Creek 5-4.

§ Funeral director Ian Pasmore oversees renovations at 12 Church Street - the future home of his proposed Blue Springs Funeral Home.

MARCH

§ Halton police recover almost \$60,000 in property stolen from Acton homes and vehicles after executing a search warrant on a Main Street North house and arresting eight people in a "mini crime spree."

§ The Acton High school Redmen Senior Girls' volleyball team clinched a playoff berth in the Ontario Secondary School Federation of Athletics single "A" championship with a 15-1 drubbing of a Toronto private school team.

§ Acton resident Susan (McGilloway) Robson was "thrilled, happy and shocked" to learn she'd been named Employee of the Year by the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce. Robson is a phlebotomist who collects blood at Georgetown hospital.

§ Neighbours of the Halton Hills Flour Mill aren't convinced that noise levels will drop as predicted by company officials when renovations and improvements to the mill are complete.

§ Three teams of students from McKenzie-Smith Bennett school capture silver,



FRANCES NIBLOCK

bronze and a fourth place finish at the Think Bowl competition.

§ Acton's Kylie Kruk is honoured at the Town's 23rd municipal awards night. Kruk, a Grade 6 student at MSB, captured the Canadian national 5-pin girls' single championship.

§ Attempts to save the old Prospect Park arena from the wrecking ball are being made by the Acton Agricultural Society which voted to come up with a formal proposal to submit to the Town which plans to tear it down.

§ Halton Hills councillors faced a "stay the course" maintenance-type of budget at the first of six proposed budget meetings. The proposed budget would mean a \$75 tax increase for a property with an assessed value of \$200,000.

§ The Pelitis family celebrates 25 years of operating Achilles Mazda in Acton.

§ One of the most accomplished Acton hockey players, Allan Marshall, died in Scarborough at age 84.

§ Acton's Danny Pursoo landed two solid double axles and skated a clean program to win gold in the senior bronze men's freeskate at the all-Ontario skating championship in Gravenhurst. Pursoo, a 13-year-old Grade 8 student at McKenzie-Smith Bennett, also took a third place finish a week earlier at the Central Ontario Sectional Inter-Club Championship.

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Unwelcome attention
Teaching children to cope with unwelcome advances takes a little planning.
Ask what they would do if they thought someone was following them. Tell them if they think someone is, to walk faster, to go into a neighbourhood store, or head for a busy street. Tell them to walk toward a group of people and wave as if they saw someone they knew or to attach themselves to the group as if they were part of it.
If the children think they are being followed by a car, tell them to change directions and run. It takes time for a car to turn around. Teach them what to do if someone offers them a ride.
As you children what they would do if they started to get on an elevator (or enter a stairway) and someone was there who gave them a funny feeling. If it happened to you, you wouldn't get on. Tell the children not to. If the person holds the elevator for them, tell them to say that they have to wait for their parents or that they forgot something and have to go back. If they are already on before they notice, and if the other person in the car is scary to them, tell them to press the button for the next floor and get off.
Tell your children if someone grabs them to scream - and keep screaming. It's their best defense. Tell them also to kick. (Ever try to hold a kicking youngster against his/her will? Next to impossible.) Tell them, if they can, to bite the hand that's holding them. Bite hard. That hurts. The molester just might loosen the grip long enough so your child can run away. Tell them also to keep screaming while they are running.
Above all, teach your children that police officers are friends. He/She need never fear a police officer. Children can always go to one for help. The police will be glad your child came to the right place even if it turns out there was no real danger after all.
Knowing that is an important part of being "Street Smart."

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Rockwood's Mandy Timmings (left), Danny Pursoo and "Mafia Girl" Cara McGilloway, both of Acton, mug for the camera following a practice session at the Acton arena in March, 1998. Danny won the gold medal in the Ontario senior men's bronze freeskate at the championship in Gravenhurst.