

# 1998 - The Year In Review

Here's a look at the people and the stories that captured headlines last year.

## Engaged Brides to be



You are invited to attend The Welcome Wagon BRIDAL PARTY Sunday, February 26th Halton Hills Cultural Centre/Library Doors Open 12:30pm For a Free Invitation call Debbie 873-9992



## June

§ Former Acton resident Wendy Brown and her children, Melissa, 4, and Johnathan, 2, were killed in a head-on crash with a dump truck in Shelburne.

§ Plans to relocate the dangerous Highway 7-Trafalgar Road intersection at Silvercreek are abandoned in favour of realigning the existing intersection.

§ Acton's 14th annual Paul Murr Memorial Golf Tournament raises almost \$25,000 for cancer research.

§ The Acton Library celebrates 100 years of book lending in Acton.

## July

§ Galvcast Manufacturing began construction on a

new multi-million dollar building, housing a second production line, across from its existing plant on Commerce Crescent.

§ Halton Hills takes third place in the Ontario Road Safety Challenge with 1.8 collisions per 10,000 in a one-week period.

§ Andy and Effie Katsilieris of Andy's restaurant celebrate 20 years of business on Mill Street.

§ The acquittal of Acton's United Aggregate Industries for operating its quarry without a development permit from the Niagara Escarpment Commission is appealed by the Sierra Legal Defense Fund.

§ An Acton father,

James Clayton, 30, is sentenced to 21 months in jail after pleading guilty to failing to provide the necessities of life to his daughter. The Children's Aid Society, which was involved with the family, promises an investigation.

§ Over the objections of their planners Town councillors unanimously decide not to appeal a Committee of Adjustment decision that approved plans for a new Home Hardware store on the southeast corner of Highway 7 and Churchill Road.

§ Veteran Acton volunteer firefighter herb Dodds, the only firefighter to have served at all three of Acton's fire stations, retires after 40 years of community service.

§ Several Rockwood residents are among 11 people charged following an 8-month investigation into booze smuggling.

§ Kingham Road residents meet with Town staff and councillors to discuss ways to slow traffic and improve safety on their street.

§ The Acton branch of the Canadian Cancer Society announced that the very successful Acton residential fund raising campaign brought in more than \$28,000.

§ Halton Region announces that it will stop offering Pegasus bus service to disabled area residents.

§ An intense heat wave forces people indoors as health officials warn of heat exhaustion.

§ The Halton Credit Union prepares to build a new Acton branch on the southwest corner of Highway 7 and Churchill Road after purchasing the Becker's plaza

## August

§ The Town works to issue its long-overdue tax bills as staff prepare for an expected onslaught of phone calls from concerned property owners impacted by a significant shift from the commercial to the residential tax base.

§ Six years after asking staff for a report on an exotic pet bylaw, Acton councillor Rick Bonnette renews his request after learning that a boa snake had escaped from a Bower Avenue home.

§ The Halton Catholic Separate school Board docks the pay of high school teachers who refuse to teach more than three periods a day or take part in extra-curricular activities.

§ The 10th annual Eden Mills Writers Festival draws thousands of people to the book launches and signings and author readings.

§ Members of the Acton Agricultural Society have renewed confidence that the Prospect Park arena can be saved, thanks to the expertise and help of Heritage Acton.

§ Acton taxpayers, muddled and mad after receiving their long overdue final tax bill for 1998, flood the Civic Centre with questions and concerns about their vastly different tax bill.

§ The Rockwood Peewee girls' softball team captures the all-Ontario championship.

§ Perfect weather and top-notch events drew record crowds to the Acton Fall Fair. Gate receipts are up 16 per cent.

§ Tanya Tonkovich, 18, follows her sister Sonya's lead and is crowned Miss Acton.

§ The 18th annual Terry Fox run draws \$24,000 in pledges as 160 participants walked, jogged, biked and rode on horseback around the track at Acton High.

§ The \$1 million resurfacing of Highway 7 from Silvercreek to Acton will be done in 1998 but the widening of Trafalgar from Silvercreek to the outskirts of Georgetown is delayed until 2000.

§ ClubLink announces that it will privatize Blue Springs Golf Course and make major club house improvements.

## September

§ The Acton Red Cross ended 25 years of blood collection services as control of the national blood system is turned over to a new agency - Canadian Blood Services - in the wake of the tainted blood scandal.

## October

§ Acton Councillor Norm Elliott denies the decision to demolish the Prospect Park arena had already been made. Elliott complained about being "accosted" on the street by people who think the ice surface will be saved in the old facility.

§ Parking and amenity space problems prompt a tour of the former YMCA building in Mill Street by Town staff, local councillors and the owner who wants to build seven apartments.

§ Halton's 900 elementary teachers, without a contract since August 31, reach a tentative deal with the Halton Catholic District School Board.

§ Acton's Devon Lambert placed second province-wide in Grade 4 solo drumming competitions over the past season.

§ Acton's Shane and Cassandra Adams capture the world jousting crowns for men and women at a Colorado event.

§ General committee members vote to demolish the Prospect Park arena saying they can't ignore warnings of safety risks from their engineer and insurance company.

§ One week later, Town Council rejects a last minute appeal to delay demolition of the Prospect Park arena and votes 6-5 to tear it down.

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