



CLEANING SNOW: Snow removal kept Town staff busy a big part of this week. - Angela Tyler photo

Nominations wanted for Citizen of Year

It's that time of year again. The Acton Rotary Club is seeking nominations for Acton's Citizen of the Year.

Rotarian Doug Fread asks nominators to include an explanation supporting their nomination and mail it by March 1 to Citizen of the Year, c/o Acton Rotary Club, Box 22, Acton, L7J2M3.

Fread wants people to re-submit nominations for candidates who were not selected in previous years.

"Our selection committee is made up of three former Citizens of the Year," he said. "The Rotary Club has nothing to do with the actual selection. We just sponsor it and make the arrangements for the Award Dinner and presentations. The committee of former winners does the choosing."

Those submitting nominations are requested to include their own name and telephone number so the selection committee can talk to them about their nominee.

Fire destroys IGA store

Fire completely destroyed the Georgetown IGA store Sunday morning and a firefighter who fought the flames had his leg broken. The store is located on Guelph Street, which is part of Highway 7 between Maple and Mountainview avenues.

An alarm was called in shortly before 5:30 a.m. and flames were shooting out the roof near the front of the building when firefighters arrived.

Firefighters were there only a few minutes when part of the burning ceiling collapsed on Bruce Morrison and a fellow brigade member. Morrison was taken to Georgetown hospital with a broken leg. He has been on the force less than a year. The other man received only minor injuries and was able to resume fighting the fire.

"We lost everything," said longtime store owner-operator Pat Bagin.



Home Maintenance Helpers Needed:
Halton Hills Community Support and Information is currently seeking persons willing to provide services for seniors and the disabled, such as snow shovelling, yard work, window washing, heavy house cleaning, etc. If you have skills and would be available to assist with this type of work please call Diane at 853-3310 to learn how you can register and become part of our referral list.

Nobody's Perfect - Parenting Workshop:
Are you a parent or caregiver who would like to find easier ways to parent? Would you like to make parenting more fun? Would you like to meet new people and share the ups and downs of parenting? If you answered yes to any of these questions then Nobody's Perfect is a program just for you! Nobody's Perfect is a discussion group for parents and caregivers of children from birth to five years. It provides support and information on health, safety, relationships, parenting and nutrition.

Nobody's Perfect will be offered at the Acton Children's Corner beginning Jan. 26, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Childcare will be provided and there is no fee for the program. Acton Children's Corner is located at the Salvation Army Church (basement). If

you would like to register for the program please call Cathy at Halton Hills Community Support and Information at 853-3310 or drop in to the program on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

A Time for Me: Personal Growth Sessions

Registrations are now being taken for the upcoming program for people over age 55 called A Time For Me. This is a unique group experience that will give people an opportunity to build on their strengths and enrich their lives. You can get to know yourself and others better, improve your listening skills, enrich your relationships, make new friends and enjoy your time more!

Both Acton and Georgetown sessions will begin on Monday, Feb. 8 and will run until March 29. The sessions will be held from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and are open to all those over 55 years of age. An evening session will also begin on Monday, Feb. 8, from 7 to 9:30 p.m. for individuals who are younger than 55 years of age. The cost for this program is \$10. And transportation can be arranged if necessary.

If you would like more information or would like to register for the program please call Halton Hills Community Support and Information at 853-3310 (Acton office) or 873-6502 (Georgetown office.)

Ask public's help to clear hydrants of snow

Halton Hills fire chief Bill Cunningham is appealing to the public for help to clear fire hydrants because of the winter's heavy snowfalls.

"The chief is asking the public to shovel out around hydrants especially in the residential areas, enough so we can locate them quickly in case of an emergency," says department spokesman Brian Ellsworth. "We have the hydrants all marked on the maps but in case of a fire we need to be able to find them immediately and we can't under these snowbanks."

While fire department and region staff realize they can't demand public assistance,

they hope people will understand the reason for the request and co-operate.

"We're just asking they dig out enough so we can see the hydrants," Ellsworth says. "If they shovel enough so we could get a hose on, that would be really great. But just enough so we can find them will do."

Halton Region north area maintenance supervisor Greg Ellis said his staff are doing their best to keep hydrants accessible around schools and hospitals but the snow keeps coming as fast as they can clear things.

"We also try to do the ones on arterial roads where

there are no residences nearby," he says. "But if we get a watermain break - and we've had a number of them this winter - then we have to shift over to that as a priority."

Especially in the north where most firefighters are volunteers, they just haven't got sufficient manpower to clear all the hydrants, Ellis says, so his people work on the task as well. But even that isn't enough this winter.

Seniors needing help to shovel their hydrants are invited to call Ellis at Halton Region (853-0501) for assistance.

"We'll do our best to get around to them," Ellis says.

Snow bylaw problem for bylaw officer

Although snow removal is a major concern for town workers, no one is getting too heavy handed about enforcing parking or obstruction regulations, says town bylaw enforcement officer Ron Stein.

There are bylaws restricting parking on snow routes between Nov. 15 and April 15 and those are enforced if necessary, he says.

However the prohibition on shoveling or blowing snow onto roads while clear-

ing driveways is usually not a problem. The town engineer does the enforcing but a few words with offenders is usually sufficient to avoid future problems.

Stein acknowledges it is illegal to put snow from driveways and parking lots onto roads but says the local bylaw deals with the issue under obstructing roads.

"We've had problems with a few commercial operators plowing parking lots onto streets," he says. "But usu-

ally all it takes is a few words when it's a private citizen. They just don't think or don't realize they are causing a problem for drivers. Once we warn them, it doesn't usually happen again. But we do have the option of charging them under town bylaws if necessary."



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