

Dave Manes selected Citizen of the Year

BY MAGGIE PETRUSHEVSKY
The New Tanner



Dave Manes

Longtime Acton businessman Dave Manes has been selected as Acton's Citizen of the Year for 1999.

The winner was selected Tuesday by a committee of former citizens of the year.

Rotarian Doug Fread says the club received a large number of nominations for

this year's honour.

Sitting in the office of his store Wednesday morning, Manes admitted to still having a bit of trouble believing the choice.

"I was sitting there last night when they came out and announced the winner," Manes says. "I'm still surprised. I know I'm moving in with quite an illustrious group. I've been to a number of the dinners through the

years. It's a real honour."

Manes spent his early years on the family farm outside Streetsville. His family moved to Nassagaweya when he was 16 and he began working for Jim Ledger at the Acton IGA in February 1955, just months after the store opened. He bought the store when Ledger retired in 1963.

Manes married his high school sweetheart, Marnie

Gibson and they live on a farm near Ospringle. They celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary next summer. The couple has four children, Mike, Shelley, John and Tom, and four grandchildren.

Manes has been a Rotarian since 1957. He is also a longtime member of Walker Masonic Lodge, a past president of the Acton Chamber of Commerce, a

founding member of the Acton Business Improvement Area, and a member of Halton Hills Shrine Club.

"We've made our livelihood here through the years," he says. "It's a good town. Too bad we're losing so many businesses."

Acton Rotary Club will host a dinner to present the award to Manes later this spring.

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Miss Acton Fair Tanya Tonkovich was at the gate to greet people, along with two of her princesses, at Saturday's Winter Fair, as was well know greeter and New Tanner columnist Michael O'Leary.

Fair success despite rain, damp Hundreds enjoyed family outing

Surplus land may be sold at MSB school
By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

Halton school board trustees were to vote last night (Wednesday) on a recommendation calling for a report detailing how surplus school land - including property at McKenzie-Smith Bennett - to help pay for new school.

The Halton Board is in desperate need for new schools in high growth areas and is currently involved in a process to try to reduce excess pupil spaces through school closings and consolidations. Until it reduces its excess pupil places it is not eligible for provincial funding to build new facilities.

At a recent accommodation committee meeting an Oakville trustee suggested that staff report on how to sever and sell off surplus school land and use the money to build new elementary schools in Georgetown South and Oakville. If the full board approves the recommendations a report would be presented at the March 24 meeting. The staff report would identify surplus lands, set up a formal appraisal system and recommend how the money from the sales could be put in a reserve fund for capital projects.

Halton Board chair Ethel Gardiner said the board needs schools more than it needs recreational space, but

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See story on Page 7

LATEST BOOK: Pauline Stuckey of Acton has just released her second children's book. *Ten Turtles on a Trampoline* is a counting book for youngsters aged three to seven. - Maggie Petrushevsky photo

BY ANGELA TYLER
The New Tanner

Despite cold damp weather that turned into rain on Saturday evening, the Acton Agricultural Society's Winter Fair was so successful, society members are already discussing different

Shortly after 6 p.m. and the opening of the Fair, hundreds of people filled the park and boat house to participate in family type events such as skating and horse drawn buggy rides.

Three hundred and fifty people paid the admission for an evening of family fun. Initial tallies indicate more than \$1500 was raised. "It was amazing," said Janice Fread, chairperson for the fund raising committee. Fread noted that people came by Prospect Park to donate money for the building fund even if they didn't attend the Fair.

Although this year's Winter Fair was planned very recently, "It sounds like we might do it again," said Fread. She said members are already analyzing which events worked, or didn't work well, and which events they might like to include in

the future.

Also on display at the Fair was the children's playhouse for which the Agriculture Society is selling raffle tickets. The playhouse was donated by local business, Peter Zions Construction, to help raise money for the new building.

Even when the rain began, many people still stayed at the park and continued to enjoy the many outdoor events or headed to the boat house for a hot bowl of chili or a steamy cup of apple cider.

One planned event that had to change drastically as a result of minimal snow and the rain was the snowman making contest. "We switched to plan B," said Fread. Children who were used to making snowmen out of real snow soon improvised to creatures made from marshmallows decorated with scraps of fabric and other interesting finds.

The building fund raising committee is already planning many upcoming events. With spring approaching, organizers are already preparing for a late May baseball tournament to help raise more funds for a new building.

High carbon dioxide level at MSB

Opening the windows on a daily basis has reduced carbon dioxide (CO2) levels to acceptable ranges in the north end of McKenzie-

Smith Bennett school. Halton Health Department testing will continue in the poorly ventilated classrooms.

A parent's concern that

poor air quality was causing their child's headaches and nausea prompted the testing, which found CO2 levels as high as 3,000 parts per mil-

lion, levels deemed "surprisingly high" by Tony Amalfa, area manager of environmental health for the Health

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What's Inside

Robert Little school was building bridges last week out of toothpicks. See photo on Page 4.

History Day at Eden Mills attracted over 150 people to reminisce and view photos and artifacts. The Community Club termed the day a great success. See Page 8 for story.

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