

# Fair board considers delaying new building

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK  
The New Tanner

The Acton Agricultural Society may not have a new building in Prospect Park for the September 2000 fall fair.

"Our original plans was have a building up by the 2000 fair, but it's difficult to do it (fund raise) in the summer because a lot of the volunteers are away," Fread said, adding that the Society will be looking at the target date for having a new building in the park to

stage fair events and house the Homecraft Division displays.

The building fund, with a goal of \$350,000, sits at approximately \$160,000 and is "building slowly" Fread said, adding that Saturday's Picnic in the Park - a fundraiser for the new building - lost money.

While saying the turnout for the show and shine car show, the car rally and chicken barbecue was "not bad" for first time events, Fread also said she was "disappointed" with the turnout.

"We may have set our sights too high. A lot of work went into the events and a lot of optimism that we could really do this and make it a good event. I think it was a good event, it's just disappointing that more people didn't come," Fread said.

"We have to sit down and discuss this to death and figure out what we should have done differently, perhaps. For what we offered, everyone that was involved was satisfied."

While many of the fund raising committee are suffering from "burnout" Fread said they are excited about future events including running a beer tent during the Leathertown truck and tractor pull on August 7, and a booth at the Leathertown Festival on August 8.


Approximately 200 chicken dinners were sold during Saturday's picnic and 35 vehicles entered the show and shine and five vehicles took part in the car rally.

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## What's Inside



Jennifer Gerrow is travelling to Mexico as a Rotary exchange student. See story on Page 3.



The Royal Canadian Dragoon held their annual picnic at the Legion Saturday. See photo on Page 2.



Saturday's Show and Shine at the park was a glittering show despite the hot, humid temperature. See photos on Page 6.

# Region asks Province for 24-hour Acton ambulance

## Car-horse fatalities

Burning candles, open bottles of beer, a bottle of Crown Royal, cassette tapes, cigarettes, bouquets of wilting flowers and hand-lettered good-byes mark the site of a car-horse accident that claimed the lives of three young men late Saturday night just outside Georgetown.

Friends of the deceased continued to visit the accident scene, still strewn with broken glass, the car's bent licence plate, just west of Sixth Line on 17 Side Road, on Monday night to say goodbye, leave mementos and talk about the good times they'd had with David Ertzly, 19, of Milton, Ryan Jenkins, 19, of Georgetown and Geoffrey Gall, 20, of Hamilton, who died after their car slammed into two horses that had escaped from the Myrddin Equestrian Centre.

The young men were westbound on 17 Side Road just before midnight when they crested a hill and slammed into the horses, one of which died while the other was slightly injured. How they escaped from the adjacent fenced field is not yet known. The car veered off the road and flipped. Ertzly and Jenkins were thrown out and died instantly. Gall was trapped in the car after it landed at the base of a tree in the ditch. He died Sunday



RELAXING MOMENT: After passing the test for his fourth degree black belt in karate D.R MacGregor, right shares a cup of tea with his examiner, Kyoshi Rodney Willis, Canadian director of the Okanawan Karate Federation. See Page 9 for the story.- Maggie Petrushevsky photo

## Region clears air

The Town is not doing all it can to reduce air emissions that cause smog, but will do better with a Regional air quality initiative being developed by Halton's health department.

During recent discussion on a proposed smog response plan, Mayor Marilyn Serjeantson asked Town staff what happened to a joint provincial group that was looking into air quality issues and

wondered if the Town was doing all it could with its vehicle fleet to promote better emission controls.

"We could be doing more and it's going to be dictated that we're going to be doing more, again through the emissions program," said Town engineer Bob Austin last week, adding the program will cover all municipal trucks, buses and cars.

Cont. on Pg. 2

## Volume, response times indicate need is here

Acton could have 24-hour ambulance service by the end of the summer.

Both Acton Councillor Rick Bonnette and Halton's new director of land ambulance services, Jim King, are confident the Ministry of Health will agree to fund half of the annual approximately \$140,000 to increase the service from the current limited hours to full service.

The Acton ambulance station, located at the rear of Becker's, is staffed from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. daily and on weekends. During the day ambulances are dispatched from Georgetown. While the rest of Halton has 24-hour service, Halton Hills is unique because it has a volunteer service, manned by 24 level 1 paramedics.

King, a former Ministry of Health official who took over as the Halton ambulance director last month, said concerns about service in Acton were raised in a consultant's report and the volunteer service asked that service be beefed up last summer.

"Halton has already budgeted our share for the increased service and that would be about \$70,000. We're looking at service for five or six months until the end of the year so we've applied to the province for

about \$35,000," King said adding a business report he's done using call volume date and call response times "fully supports" going to full-time service in Acton.

King said once they get an answer from the province they'll begin negotiations with the volunteer service.

"The change will mean more hours will be available for the staff up there where there are some part-time staff and some volunteers. We'll have to sit down and negotiate with the service how they're going to fill the extra hours."





Councillor Bonnette said he's not sure how long it will take to get an answer about the funding from the province, but he's confident the answer will be yes.

"Our figures show that Acton does warrant 24-hour a day ambulance service and now the application, with the support of the Halton Hills Ambulance Service, is in the province's court," Bonnette said on Tuesday.


The province, which currently pays half of the cost of ambulance service in Halton, is downloading the responsibility for land ambulance service to municipalities and Halton expects to take over the service next year.

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