

GENEROUS DONATION: With former members of the recently disbanded Acton Golden Age Club Ruth Burke (left) and Dot Redekop (right) looking on, Club president Chistena Robertson presents Acton Agricultural Society member Doug Fread with a cheque for \$3,000 to help pay for a new fair building in Prospect Park. - Frances Niblock photo

Bonnette wants weed cleanup urges \$250 fine on taxes

By FRANCES NIBLOCK The New Tanner

Owners of weed infested property in urban Acton should be slapped with a \$250 Town cleanup charge says Acton Councillor Rick Bonnette who wants the Town to beef up it property standards bylaw.

Bonnette wants tougher standards to control all weeds, not just noxious weeds now covered by the provincial Weeds Act and the Town's property standards bylaw, complaining recently the weeds on several prominent vacant properties are "absolutely disgusting."

"We'd give them 21 days to cut it and if they don't cut it we send the Town in and we cut it and slap \$250 on



owner or agent asking them to cut the weeds might be an easier way to handle the problem, but Bonnette said they need some teeth, a "hammer" in a bylaw to force compliance.

The Town's property standards bylaw includes a section to deal with weeds in yards, parking lots and vacant property that says grass, plantings and hedges shall be maintained and be kept free of noxious weeds as defined by the Weeds Act. For residential property, the bylaw says no overgrown vegetation or noxious weeds are permit-

"The problem with enforcing this is to make a de-

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termination what is 'overgrown'," said Town bylaw enforcement officer, and municipal weed inspector, Ron

Under the property standards bylaw, the Town can issue an order for a property owner to cut overgrown weeds, but that order can be appealed and then the issue must go to a property standards committee for a decision. If the owner doesn't comply they can be charged and/or the Town can cut the weeds and bill the property owner.

Stein said the hot dry summer has curbed some weed growth and in urban

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Feeling a Little Stressed?

As the summer winds down and our thoughts turn to getting the kids ready for school, arranging after school activities and saying goodbye to the leisurely pace we've enjoyed for the past couple of months, life can become a little overwhelming! Let these downtown Acton businesses help ease the transition.

Touch of Harmony, one of Acton's newest businesses, offers a selection of therapies to help you relax. Pracitioner Joyce Caldwell Grozier can draw all the tension out of your body with her Therapeutic Touch sessions. Jocye, who is located at 18 Mill St. E, 853-1197, also offers Reflexology, Hypnosis, Reiki and Ear Con-

Willow Lane Natural Foods carries a selection of natural products to combat stress and anxiety. Owner Annie Kerkhof suggests B Complex Vitamins, Valarian & Hops or the popular St. John's Wort as natural calming remedies. The store, which is located at 125 Willow St. S., is open Monday to Saturday.

Back to school shopping is always an exciting tiem, especially for little ones. Foverver Youngsters carries a wide selection of clothing for the younger set, including OSH-KOSH and one-of-a-kind dresses, jumpers and overalls by a local designer.

Children's evening activities can sometimes be a hassle with rushed dinners, car-pooling to practices, etc. Classic Karate has come up with a great solution! They will be offering classes right after school, so students will be home in time for dinner and have their evening free for other activities. Call 853-9967 for more information. Make your life a little easier this fall and stay close to home!

Worden view lots at OMB

The Region's ban on new rural estate subdivisions was the focus of an Ontario Municipal Board hearing this week into a proposed six lot development at the southeast corner of Highway 7 and Fifth Line on Worden View.

Planners, agricultural and market specialists for the landowner, Canadian Tire Corporation Limited, testified in support of the plan which would require amendments to both the Region's and Town's official plans. The applicant argued that the property, with lots fronting on the existing Worden View, is unique and would complete the subdivision and is infilling, not a new subdivision.

Before Tuesday's hearing, Town planner Arvin Prasad said the applicant referred the proposal to the OMB, knowing that Halton has taken a strong stand against development in the rural area, directing growth to rural clusters and hamlets. While the Town's official plan, currently doesn't ban rural estate subdivisions, that plan is under review and

must conform to the stricter Regional plan.

Ten years ago at another OMB hearing the Worden View subdivision was reduced in size to 16 lots, excluding Canadian Tire's lots, based in part on opposition from Halton and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) which said the development would have a significant impact on agricultural lands.

The hearing was scheduled to wrap up tomorrow (Friday).

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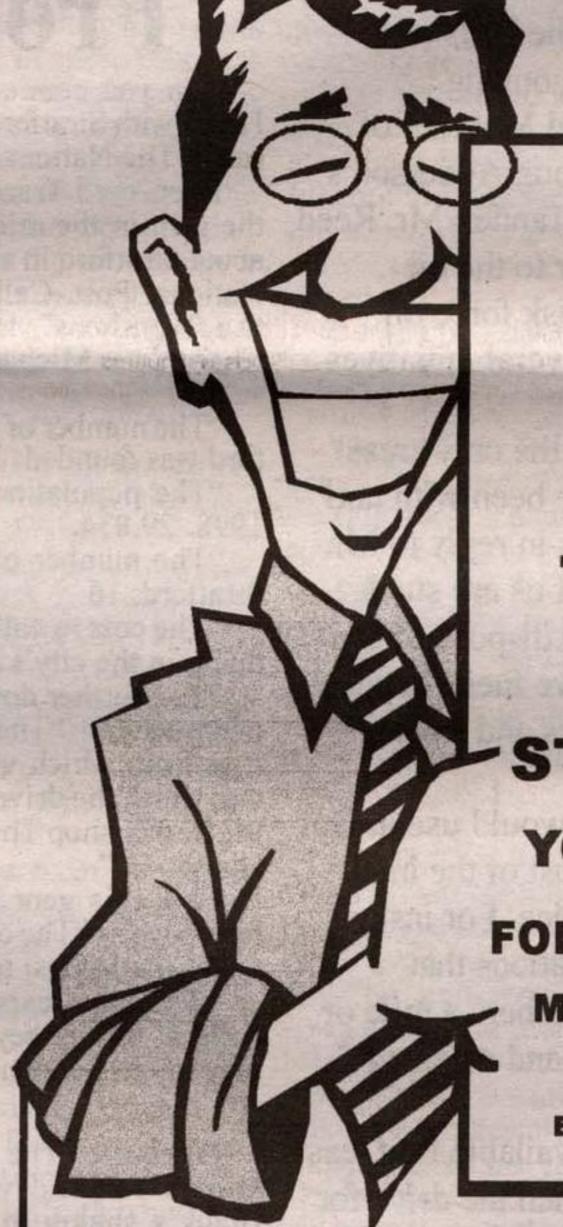
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