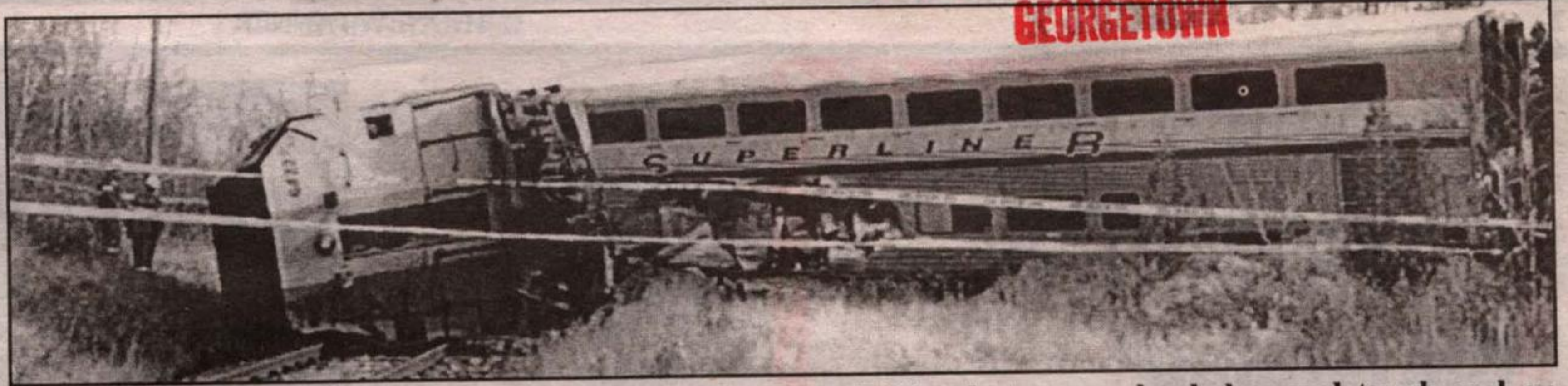




## Remembrance Day

See our pullout section



**ON THE GROUND:** A collision Tuesday on the Fourth Line between a loaded gravel truck and an Amtrak train left the truck driver dead and the train's engine on the ground. The two engineers, employed by VIA Rail were taken to hospital with minor injuries. Halton Hills firefighters were at the scene Tuesday and Wednesday. - Ted Tyler photo

ROCKWOOD  
**RP**  
MOTOR PRODUCTS

WE FINANCE

**1994 F150 XL 4X4 \$9,995**  
Rockwood • 856-2222

Newstand price: 40¢ + GST

# THE NEW Tanner

Your Hometown Newspaper

Volume 2 No. 45 Thursday, November 11, 1999

IT'S WORTH THE DRIVE TO

1995 Saturn SLI  
**ACTON MOTORS**  
853-1280

# Trucker dies in train-truck crash Tuesday

## What's Inside



Veteran Frank Koen tells his story about the Korean War in our Remembrance Day section. See Page 11.



Rockwood honours its war dead Sunday including veteran Hugh Gerrie, escorted to the cenotaph by his cousin, a Mountie. See Page 15.



Acton High School honoured its graduates at ceremonies in the school Friday night. See Page 3.



The first coach suffered a gaping hole in the crash. The truck, driven by a man from Little Current, collided with the Amtrak train at the Fourth Line crossing. Fortunately all the passengers had been moved to the two rear coaches because of a malfunctioning air conditioning system. - Ted Tyler photo

## Amtrak train derails but few are hurt

BY ANGELA TYLER  
The New Tanner

"We opened the door and saw the train stopped and we knew something had happened there," said Acton resident John Barrett following a truck and train collision Tuesday morning that claimed one life.

"There was no real loud bang, just a normal (sound). You hear the bang, bang when they go over the tracks and this is what it sounded like, more or less," Barrett said. Some employees from neighbouring Blue Circle Aggregates said it sounded like an explosion to them. One employee, Henry Roach, perhaps the only witness to the incident, viewed the horrific crash from a bulldozer while he worked atop a gravel pile.

The Amtrak train, which was operated by VIA Rail employees left Toronto Tuesday morning at 7:50 a.m. enroute to Chicago. The train was scheduled to take on passengers at Kitchener, London and Sarnia then was to switch to an Amtrak crew before entering the United States.

At 9:07 a.m., the train, with 32 passengers and 4 crew on board, collided with a loaded tandem dump truck at the level CNR crossing on the 4th Line, Acton, just north of 22 Sideroad. The truck had just finished loading at the quarry. The operator of the truck, Brett Wade, 22 years old from Swift Current on Manitoulin Island, was pronounced dead on the scene by the Coroner.

Investigators are trying to determine whether the west-bound train hit the truck or if

the truck ran into the train and why. Following the impact, the single engine diesel locomotive and all four passenger cars derailed. The locomotive flipped over on its side, while the rest of the cars ended in a twisted and tangled mess. The first car had a giant size hole ripped into the side. It is unknown if this was caused by the locomotive or the truck.

The truck, which was barely recognizable, was tore into many pieces. The container on the back of the truck lay beside the rail with its load scattered, while pieces of the truck lead the way to the main body of the truck. With the smell of diesel in the air, eight rescue workers continued their efforts for three hours to free the man's body from the wreckage.

"In a case like this, the truck was not where it was supposed to be," Paul Raynor, VIA Rail's Director of Public Relations said. "It put 40 lives at risk."

Eleven passengers, including two crew members, were taken to Georgetown District Hospital and treated for non-life threatening injuries. The remaining people, including two children, were taken to Halton Police Service in Georgetown where two

Cont. on Pg. 6

## Big decisions for Fair Board

By Frances Niblock  
The New Tanner

There might be some provincial money available to help the Acton Agricultural Society pay for a new building to replace the arena the Town demolished in Prospect Park last year.

"I'm still trying to raise money out of the Trillium Fund," said Halton M.P.P. Ted Chudleigh on Monday.

"They don't fund capital projects, but they have funded in the past, for instance, architectural costs and some fund rising costs," Chudleigh said, adding he was looking for ways for the community to raise some money. He also said any Trillium money "isn't the kind of chunk (of money) that they need to top off the fund."

The prospect of some Trillium Fund money is good news to Society building fund spokesperson Janis Fread who said they had abandoned the Trillium grant application after being told capital projects weren't eligible.

Fread said in the near future, possible at the Society's November meeting, the board of directors will have to whether to go ahead and begin construction without having all of the money.

"I believe they are out sourcing architects... and we should be making a statement at our November meeting, where we're at and how positive it looks for doing something in the spring," Fread said.

The projected cost of a new 15,000-square-foot building in the park is \$350,000 and there's approximately \$200,000 in the pot, including \$45,000 in donations and fund raising revenue. The Town has promised \$20,000.

A letter from Society secretary/treasurer Daniel Varanelli, asking for his help in obtaining provincial money sparked Chudleigh's recent renewed interest in the project.

**Check in and we'll check you out.... ready for winter**

**SPECIALIZED MAZDA SERVICE**

**MAZDA**

**GENUINE PARTS AND ACCESSORIES**

<b>We'll check up:</b>	<b>We'll change:</b>	<b>We'll Top Up:</b>
• Battery	• Radiator Fluid	• Fluids
• Muffler	• WIPER BLADES	• Windshield Washer
• Brakes		• Brake Fluid
• Lights		• Automatic Transmission Fluid
• Wire Set		

And we'll change your oil and install a new filter. **\$99.95** all applicable taxes extra

**Achilles**

**MAZDA**

357 Queen St. Acton  
(519) 853-0200