



**GENEROUS CHEQUE:** Superior Glove Works Limited employee Marlene March (right) presented a cheque for \$1,000 to Canadian Cancer society, Acton branch Cathy Gerrow on Monday. Superior raised the money by donating \$5 for each customer who returned a company satisfaction survey. — Frances Niblock photo



**BENEFIT TICKETS:** Halton Credit Union manager Harold Postma and senior teller Cathy Munday hold tickets to the Susan Lindsay benefit dance that are available at the Acton Credit Union branch and other Acton stores and businesses. The Friday, June 9 dance at the Legion will help defray medical expenses for Susan who is recovering from a rare brain infection in an U.S. research hospital. — Frances Niblock photo

# Response heartens mother

Dear Editor,  
I would like to congratulate the students and staff of the Acton High School on a very successful production of "Guys and Dolls."

As the parent of one of the cast members I know how hard they all worked to get it ready to perform for us. Also a very large thank you should go out to Mr. Mark Tiller for agreeing to add another directing job to his already very busy life, and to Mrs. Lois Matton for taking on the task of directing the "pit band." I am not sure that any one told her that all the senior band members were already cast in roles in the play. Because of this she would have to convince the younger, and shyer Grade 9 and 10 band members to rise to the challenge and learn to play many pieces of

music in a very short period of time. Without these people volunteering many hours of their time this play would not have happened. You both should be very proud of the performance that the students put on under your leadership.

Mrs. Marshall once again tapped into her well of resources to come up with costumes for a cast of almost 50 students on a zero budget. It is amazing to watch as she takes bits and pieces of costumes that she has had to beg or borrow from where ever she can and transform them into the costumes for a play. Thanks also should go to all those who used their own money to buy the little extras that were needed to complete their costume.

The students gain so

much from doing these shows, it would really be a great loss if the time comes when there are no longer people willing to step in and offer to give so freely of their time and talents. For the staff, students, family members and volunteers this really is a labour of love.

So, another time if while you are watching one of the productions that our school has done, and the music is not always right on the mark, or the costumes are not exactly what you might expect, or a voice is not as crystal clear as you may wish, please take the time to step back and have a good look at the whole picture. Did you enjoy what you saw as a whole? Did they entertain you? Did the cast look like they were having a good time too? Did they make



you laugh or cry? If you can answer yes to one or more of these questions then I believe that you must agree that the play was a success!

I am looking forward to many more wonderful productions to come in the years ahead.

Sincerely,  
Leah Youngblut  
A proud and grateful parent.

P.S. Marg, thank you for writing a review that has caused so many people to stop and talk about this year's play. It was really heart warming to see the number of people that came forward to praise and reassure the cast.

## Accepting criticism is part of growing up

BY MAGGIE PETRUSHEVSKY  
The New Tanner

Reporters don't usually reply to criticism since it tends to suggest a guilty conscience or a delicate ego, and prolongs controversy. In this case silence could equally be mistaken for arrogance or indifference.

Since assumptions seem to be being made that are totally wrong, I must first remind readers I did not say there was anything very wrong with the kids' performance of Guys and Dolls. I just didn't enumerate their virtues at length.

Contrary to Miss Cunneyworth's presumption, I did see Mattress last year. That's why I couldn't get really excited about this year's performance. Mattress showed me what talent these kids have and this year's play

didn't reach that standard. To speculate on the reason for that difference would truly have been harsh and could have created real damage.

Second, I was probably one of the few audience members who did not attend because I am teaching or related to a cast member. Having helped with student performances while teaching elementary and Sunday school as well as having 23 grandchildren and 15 nieces and nephews, I am well aware of the effort such productions require. I have also seen kids' frustrations with their own performance levels - frustration even to the point of threatening to never perform again. That's when parents and teachers need to help kids' in questioning their reasons for participating. Unless it's for their own pleasure and growth, kids need to seriously

consider their desire to perform because reviews can hurt if their purpose is misunderstood.

Incidentally, even unintentional efforts to blackmail the press into silence or mushy praise tends to backfire.

I oppose the notion kids should never be criticized. Teenagers especially need to discover their efforts may be "adequate" rather than su-

perative if they are to be prepared for the real world. This sheltering attitude is why so many employers accuse educators of ignoring important facets of their job.

Perhaps it will comfort upset readers to know this ends my high school reviewing for some years. I haven't been scared off. Rather, since some of my offspring enter AHS this year my opinions may become biased.

## Come to Thrift Shop

To the editor,  
The Salvation Army would like to extend a cordial welcome to all those in our community to come to the Acton Thrift Store on Thursday, May 18 to enjoy refreshments and have a look at what the Store has to offer in the line of clothing, housewares and toys.

We want to take this opportunity to thank all those who very generously donate items to keep our Store well stocked. A thank you is also extended to our customers who continue to shop locally and support our ministry. Through your combined efforts you help us to provide to the members of our community a great place to shop for a wide range of good quality merchandise at very rea-

sonable prices.

It will be our pleasure to meet previous donors and customers and to encourage those who have yet to discover what the Thrift Store has to offer to stop in and check us out. Please join us on Thursday, May 18 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. for 'Customer Appreciation Day!'

Sincerely,  
Captain Lyndon Hale and  
Thrift Store Employees.

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