



Sample Fest, fireworks for holiday

Canada Day and the holiday weekend in Acton mean Sample Fest walking tours and the annual fireworks display by the firefighters.

Since Canada Day falls on Saturday this year the fireworks display won't be held until Monday, July 3. Sample Fest, however, the sixth annual walking tours of Acton with stops along the way to sample specialties at local eateries, will happen on Saturday, July 1.

Tour guides will lead the Sample Fest walking tours through downtown Acton to discover the building and people (and apparitions) that make the town unique.

The historical tour will stop for sampling at the Red Dog Café, Godfather Pizza and The Towne Friar for local delicacies.

The ghost tour will visit the Station Hotel, Subway and Acton's new restaurant Café Francesco.

Tickets for the tours, which are run by the Acton BIA are \$8 per person. They are available at Wetherby's or by calling the BIA at 853-1031, extension 274.

Tours start at 2 p.m. from the olde Hide House parking lot. They last about 2 1/2 hours.

"One can learn all about the history of Acton while enjoying some great food provided by a selection of the Town's best eateries," says BIA manager Janis Fread. "And maybe look for a shade or two from the past."

Monday's fireworks display will be stayed in Prospect Park from the Park Point and the pyrotechnics will light up the sky and surrounding Fairy Lake with their brilliance. About \$7,000 has been allotted for the show which will last for about 30 minutes after dusk, around 10 p.m. Some of the best viewing spots are at

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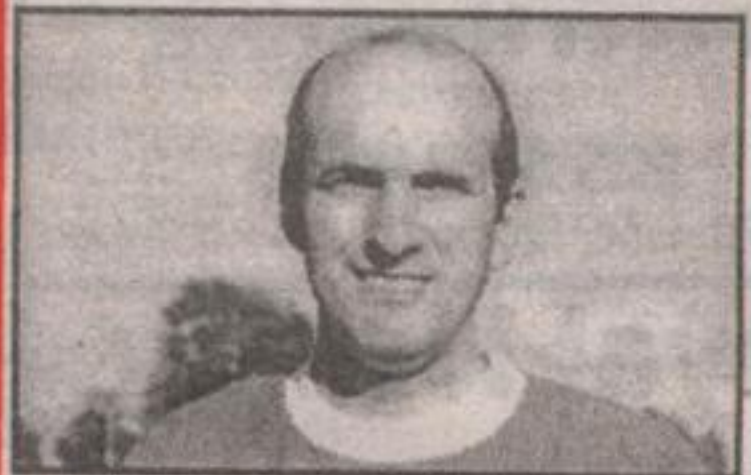
What's Inside



There are high school reunion photos on Pages 4, 7 and 9 and more promised for next week's New Tanner.



Acton Seniors' Rec. Centre celebrated its 5th anniversary last week. Dot Redekop has the story on Page 6.



Meet the Soccer Coach of the Week on the Sports Page which is on Page 9 this week.



See our graduation section and leaders of the future from Page 11 to 18. Classifieds are on Page 19 this week.

Wasn't that a party?



WASN'T THAT A PARTY!: The gym was full Saturday when the reunion's opening assembly kicked off. Above, the crowd reacted to the nostalgic sounds of a present-day high school trio playing an Elvis Presley tune. - Maggie Petrushevsky photo

'One of the biggest, best Acton ever had!'

BY MAGGIE PETRUSHEVSKY
The New Tanner

The weekend reunion of students from the former Acton High School was "the biggest and best party Acton has ever had."

The comment, from former student, now Halton Hills councillor Norm Elliott during Sunday's closing ceremonies at the Royal Canadian Legion, drew echoes of agreement from a large assembly of local and visiting alumni.

Alumnus Rick Bonnette referred to the weekend as "the biggest love-in I've ever participated in."

Elliott's unconfirmed figures put attendance at Saturday evening's dance in the arena at over 1,000 people. Another participant quoted attendance at "more than 1,200."

The resurrection of The Shaynes band, which played for so many school dances during the school's lifetime, created "magical moments" and "waves of nostalgia" when they took the stage for a set in the middle of the dance, Elliott said.

How many others shared Elliott's emotions was obvious as the dancers crowded around the stage and just stood almost in awe as the band kicked off their first few numbers. A handful eventually started to move in rhythm with an Elvis tune and gradually couples started dancing

behind the throng at the stage.

Saturday's rain dissuaded a number of alumni from gathering at Prospect Park for the trek along Main and Mill to the old school led by Acton Citizens' Band. As one marcher remarked, how often we made this trip as kids but it never seemed that long in those days. Of course, it gave those of us in the parade a good chance to heckle the rain-shy alumni watching

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Post Office Canada's best

Acton Post Office has been named one of the best retail postal operations in the country.

The office was included in a select group of 50 Canada Post corporate and franchise outlets honoured in the Gold Member category at the annual Achiever's Club National Retail Summit held June 17-19 at Le Chateau Montebello, south of Ottawa.

The staff at Acton was selected for recognition on the basis of its 1999/2000 revenue performance compared to target and their high rating in the 'Mystery Shopper' program, whereby anonymous shoppers visit an outlet and test counter employees on their ability to fulfill a customer's total postal needs. Merchandising techniques and general appearance of the outlet is also scored.

Confusing development report

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

An Acton development control and water monitoring report is clear as mud to Town councillors and staff who have asked for clarification from Halton. The Regional report says final approval of approved draft plans and significant infill development should be deferred until the Halton planning and public works commissioner says there's sufficient water and wastewater capacity for Acton to grow to 10,000 people. Acton Councillor Norm Elliott asked for a lot more information and defied anybody to read the report and come up with a clear understanding of development possibilities in Acton. "I know our staff are confused by some of this and I understand they've asked

for a meeting with the Region," Elliott said, adding he's convinced there is enough water and sewer capacity to allow the proposed West Meadows phase three seniors housing complex on Wallace Street to go ahead, sooner not later. West Meadows requires capacity for 147 units and the report indicates 33 units are available and capacity for 47 have already allocated to the property on the west side of Wallace Street, north of McDonald Boulevard. Elliott questioned why Acton has the lowest water consumption and wastewater generation rates in Halton, but has the highest person per unit ratio and another look at the figures would result in enough units for the Dawkins seniors' project to proceed.

Halton staff will be asked to clarify the report at an upcoming Town council meeting.

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