



ENVIRONMENTAL ACES: Students at Robert Little School received this tree from the environmental group, POWE, for planting trees as a millennium project. Attending Friday's tree dedication ceremony were (kneeling) John Cullen and Dustin Ballentine. Back, from left: Ryan Wagg, principal Don Warren, POWER reps Leslie Adams and Barbara Halsall. — Frances Niblock photo

Sod turned for new Georgetown Catholic Elementary School

Georgetown's fourth separate school will be named St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Elementary School.

A sod turning ceremony for the school, located on Barber Street east of Mountainview Road and south of Argyle Drive, will be held Nov. 6 at 1:30 p.m. with

Bishop Anthony F. Tonno officiating. The school is to accommodate students from Grades JK to 8 when it opens in September 2001.

Halton Hills trustee Irene McCauley says "Saint Catherine's devotion to her faith, even in the face of great danger, made her a symbol of Christianity's triumph over

paganism and one of the most popular Christian saints in Europe during the later Middle Ages."

She is the patron saint of young girls, students, clergy, philosophers and crafts people, such as wheelwrights, spinners and millers, whose work is centred on the wheel.

Students branch out

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

Standing on the stump of a tree cut down when it died, members of a north Halton environmental group dedicated a new tree at the Robert Little School playground on Friday, thanking students for helping with a tree-planting project.

Robert Little students joined 1,700 other students at 13 Halton Hills schools to help POWER (Protect Our Water and Environmental Resources) with its Trees 2000: Restoring Our Ecosystem project.

Six sites, including several around Fairy Lake, were planted by students who spent a half-day planting one-metre tall hardwoods and the other half learning about the environment. Some student art work, done with the help of an art consultant who worked with the teachers and students, is on display in downtown stores.

Principal Don Warren told the students their offspring could enjoy the fruits of their labour.

"Being a Sugar Maple, many, many years from now when your children and grandchildren go to this school, they may do a maple syrup demonstration on this tree," Warren said, adding although they lost a beautiful old tree, they helped replace it, and planted thousands of others.

POWER spokesperson

Leslie Adams presented Warren with a plaque, designed by students, and thanked the school for its hard work.

"A big part of what this project is trying to do is get you guys outside and thinking about how you are with nature," Adams said, adding they will continue planting this spring.

Before the ceremony, POWER past president Barbara Halsall said they hope to plant 10,000 trees before they're finished and empower a lot of students.

"So much environmental education is almost frightening — there are so many problems and while people need to know about what's happening out there, students need to feel they can fix some of this," Halsall said.

"There's got to be some hope and some enthusiasm about 'let's see what we can do' and that was the push behind this project, to give the kids an opportunity to be part of something that is lasting."

POWER received grants totalling more than \$150,000 from six organizations to do the planting which Halsall said wouldn't have been possible without the help and support of a long list of community groups, local businesses and individuals.

At press time, the date for the tree planting at McKenzie-Smith Bennett was not confirmed. The ceremony at Acton High School, where 14 trees were planted, took place today (Thursday).

TOWN DIGEST

Blue Circle busy

Blue Circle Aggregates is waiting for formal notification from the province that it can increase the maximum tonnage of crushed limestone mined from its Acton quarry to 4-million from 3.5-million.

The temporary increase is necessary the company says to meet the demands of a hot economy and construction at the Pearson airport.

Without the increase the quarry would have reached its existing tonnage limit sometime this month and would have been forced to cease production mid-month.

All stone must be shipped west via Regional Road 43 to the former Highway 25, resulting in no additional gravel truck traffic on the Fourth Line. The number of trucks will increase to nine an hour, from five, on Regional Road 43.

The Acton quarry is the sixth largest producing quarry in Canada.

Candidate confusion?

With both municipal and federal election campaigns in full swing, it's no wonder Acton voters aren't sure whose at the door asking for their vote.

"I've been asked what party I represent, what do I think of the death penalty and gun control," Ward 1 and 2 municipal candidate Rick Bonnette said, wondering if the federal candidates will get asked about roads and stop signs in the confusion.

While municipal voters have 22 candidates to choose from on Monday, there are only five federal candidates in the riding of Halton, which includes Acton.


In the June 1997 federal election 67.7 per cent of Halton's estimated 81,246 voters cast ballots. In the last municipal election three years ago, just 36.8 per cent of the 31,469 eligible voters bothered to vote.

Federal voters should have received a voter information card from Elections Canada by now telling them where to vote on November 27. If you haven't, or if you want to know you are on the voters list, call 1-800-463-6868.


Municipal voters can check with the clerk's department at the Town to check if they are on the municipal Voters lists. You can be added to the list either at the Civic Centre office or at the poll on Election Day, Monday, with proper identification.

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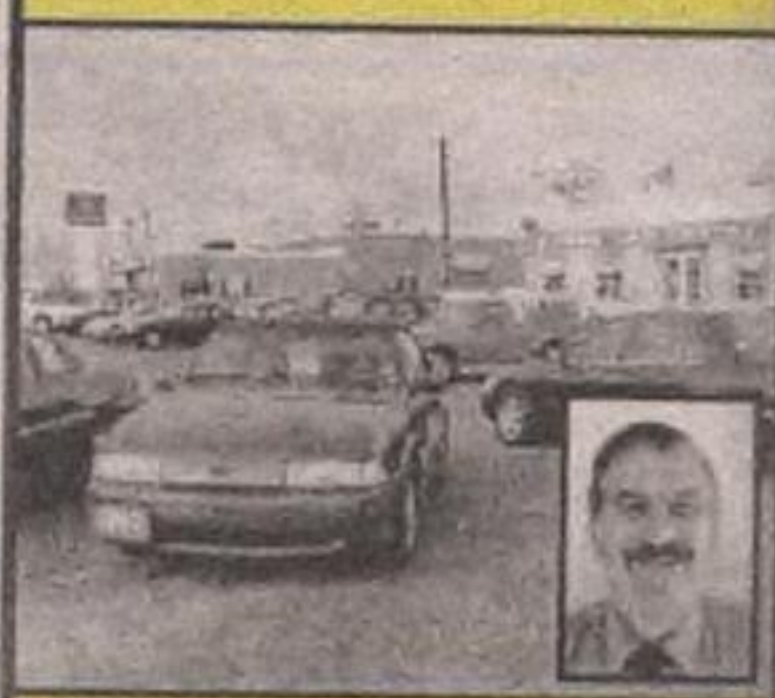


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