

8-year-old sparks aid for the poor

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

The generous wish of a young Acton boy to help the poor has sparked a local student fund raising drive that will may spread to all Acton schools.

Tyler Townsley, 8, a Grade 3 student at Robert Little school, surprised and pleased his parents recently when he decided to give all of his money (an education fund) to the poor.

While his parents wanted to encourage his budding desire to help others, they suggested emptying his bank account wasn't the best plan. Tyler then decided he could still raise a lot of money, if he asked his classmates to help.

"I just said to my mom that I wanted to give money to the poor people and the earthquake people need food, water and blankets and shelter," Tyler said when asked about his plan.

Tyler's mom, Judy Townsley, is understandably very proud.

"I was just overwhelmed that he would even think of this. I suggested the earthquake victims in India need our help and he agreed," Mrs. Townsley said, adding Tyler has collected money for UNICEF at Hallowe'en and helped fill a shoebox with Christmas gifts for Third World countries in the past.

Continued on Page 2.



Tyler Townsley

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Volume 4 No. 7
Thursday, February 15, 2001

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What's Inside



Acton minor hockey teams are polishing off the opposition in the OMHA playoffs. See Pages 13 and 15 for sports reports.



Tavis Rosengren shows off a sarcophagus he helped make for Robert Litt's study of Egypt. More on Page 12.



Mike's back with his views on the current news. See Page 5.

CHUCKLE TIME

"The only people who listen to both sides of an argument are the neighbours." - Hal Roach

What do Acton Seniors want?

Swollen creeks pose danger

Halton Regional Police are urging parents and teachers to remind children about the dangers of playing around swollen creeks and rivers as warm weather and rains raise water levels.

The unusually warm temperatures recently have caused rivers, creeks and ditches to swell as rain and melt water runoff accumulate in these areas. Curiosity is a natural part of a child's development, however parents and other caregivers need to be vigilant about tempering their child's natural curiosity with a strong sense of safety.

Children should be reminded about the dangers of thin and thawing ice, as well as the dangers that running and standing water can present.



GET WELL WALTER: Before giving blood for their neighbour and friend, Walter Barlow, Acton's Vince Trudelle and Colleen Williamson, sitting with Pauline Barlow (centre), sent Walter a get-well message. - Frances Niblock photo

Search for missing attendant

Halton Regional Police want the public's help in locating 30-year-old Eugene Novicky following his "usual" disappearance from the Beaver Gas Bar Queen Street in Acton early Monday morning.

Novicky, a recent Russian immigrant, was last seen by a Tim Hortons customer at 5:25 a.m. Monday. Customers and coffee shop staff report earlier in the night it was evident he'd been drinking.

Police were called a short while later by customers who wanted to buy gas, but found

the gas bar unmanned.

Police report property and cash is missing and, along with family and friends, are growing increasingly concerned over the man's unexplained disappearance. Novicky has an aunt and uncle in Toronto who haven't see him since he left for work.

Police said there was no sign of foul play, but until they locate the missing man, are keeping all options open as the investigation continues.

Following up on information received from a citizen on Tuesday night, police

planned to search the fields on the south side of Highway 7, east of Churchill Road yesterday, although they did not expect to find the missing man there.

Novicky is a white, male, 173-cm, 77-kg, with short black hair, and brown eyes and was wearing a gray jacket and black pants.

Anyone with information is asked to call Halton Regional Police at 905-825-4747, ext. 2415 or CRIMESTOPPERS at 825-8477.



Eugene Novicky

Only a handful show up for workshop

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

Only a handful of Acton seniors showed up at a workshop to answer a housing and support services survey on Monday - a disappointing turnout - but enough to give Halton planners important information as they try to help the Region's 37,000 seniors remain independent.

Sponsored by the Elderly Services Advisory Committee, (ESAC), an advisory body to Halton Council on seniors' issues, the survey will help planners, developers and builders provide the kinds of housing seniors want, and tell them what kinds of support services and transportation will help them remain independent and in the community.

Acton senior Neil Miller attended the workshop because, although he and his wife currently live in their own home, he wanted to know what's out there for the future.

"We might not always stay in this house and I want to know what our options are. Maybe we'll go into an apartment," Miller said.

Senior Ena Gibson optimistically plans to remain in her home for another 10 years, but realistically knows she'll have to downsize at some point.

Continued on Page 3.

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