

# Off the Wall anticipates 1st anniversary

Dear Editor

As we near the First Anniversary of the Off the Wall

youth centre, Acton needs to applaud their own success story and the very valuable

positive presence of youth in their community. We need to remind ourselves of the value of the resources that helped to build it - Acton.

Off the Wall has had in excess of 3035 visits since it opened its doors. The centre now houses a variety of games, educational resources and on-going special events and programs. Resources available on-site on a regular basis include job search programs, résumé writing, job bank, computer and internet access, alcohol and drug addiction counselling, recreational activities, special events, summer program trips and access to the Halton Regional Health Clinic. Additional support includes referrals to outside agencies for youth in crisis, family mediation, and social service agencies supporting youth needs (Off the Wall has a zero toler-



ance policy for drugs, alcohol, violence and abuse). Youth newsletters are published quarterly with events happening in Halton Hills and the Region.

In March the final session of Technology for teens ran a computer literacy program for youth and their families. This program was an overwhelming success due to the generous contributions of computers and accessories from the Acton community, service groups and the business sector.

Junior Nights began in December at the request of the pre-teens who wanted a place to go. The first night saw 116 youth participate. Junior Nights continue to attract large numbers of youth with-



**GENEROUS DONATION:** Robert Little School principal Don Warren (right) accepted a cheque for \$172 from Acton Subway owner Gus Galimanas on Monday. Three Acton schools and the Acton Cancer Society branch received cash from Subway, which donated \$1 from each sub sold to the various groups.

out incident. The youth are excited to have positive choices available to them in their home community.

Halton Hills Community Support and Information (HHCSI), the sponsoring agency of Off the Wall, continues to struggle to provide quality youth programming without on-going government funding. HHCSI must look towards the community for donations and financial support to keep these programs operational.

As we anticipate the upcoming celebration of our opening we extend a thank you to the community of Acton, the service groups, and businesses for their on-going donations and support by investing in our youth today for stronger leaders tomorrow.

Hours of operation include Thursday and Friday from 3:30 to 9 p.m. and monthly Junior Nights.

**Kimberly Rogers**  
Youth Manager HHCSI

## Plans reconsidered...

Continued from Page 1.

new building, indicated the soil couldn't support a new building. It would have to be trucked out and replaced, and the building would have to be

engineered to a higher standard, which could cost between \$140,000 and \$400,000.

AAS spokesperson Janis Fread said while they are disappointed they won't start on a new building this year, the "glitch" has opened up some other avenues.

"It's forcing us to look at it from a different perspective, and maybe, this might be better anyway, I don't know, but we still have a lot of work ahead of us," Fread said, adding the decision to look at the poultry barn came after a lot of debate among various committees and members.

AAS spokesman George Henderson would like to see the poultry barn moved to the footprint of the old arena, but others want it by the Boat House, so a new building could still be constructed on the old arena site, once more money is raised.

"We're going to do more (soil) testing and we're asking a contractor how much it would cost to move the poultry barn," Henderson said on Saturday.

"With all these options, it could be a couple of months before we can make any decision."

The Town's director of recreation and parks, Bryan Shynal, said they'll take another look at the other possible building locations that were identified when they developed a master plan for the park's long-range future.

"The Agricultural Society is also going to have to go back and take a closer look at the (soil) conditions with more testing in the site where they are approved to be, and find out if conditions they found on one bore hole, are true for the whole building footprint," Shynal said.

One test result showed the soil, including leftover organic material from a former wood mill on the site, is "structurally inadequate," he said. Asked how the same soil managed to support the old arena for more than six decades, Shynal said, "that's a good question," and suggested stricter building codes are a factor.

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access to the outside. A pocket door opens to the kitchen and breakfast room, which has a bayed window as well as a door leading to steps down to the back garden.

The master suite, at the rear of the house, has a three-piece ensuite bathroom and a long clothes closet. Two secondary bedrooms share the main bathroom.

The double-door garage has access to the house past a coat-cupboard and the laundry.

Circle-top windows and a front porch enhance the exterior and add to the charm of this family home.

The house is 40 feet wide and 40 feet, 6 inches deep with 1,347 sq ft of living space.

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