

Halton website helps locate affordable housing

It's easier now to search for affordable housing in Acton – but it's not necessarily any easier to find it.

Halton Region has launched an on-line version of its Housing Help Centre that allows prospective tenants to check a Website for any vacant apartments or houses in the Region and allows private sector landlords to list

their properties for rent.

Unfortunately, the list of available rental units in Acton is very short with just seven properties registered with the free service – six apartments and one house. The apartment rents range from \$350 to \$850 per month and the house, in the Prospect Park area, rents for \$1,000 month.

"Halton Hills and Milton have a 0.4 per cent vacancy rate." Housing Centre co-ordinator Jennifer O'Neill said on Friday.

"We're doing a marketing effort to recruit more landlords to the system because we're definitely lacking (listings) for Acton, Georgetown and Milton."

The Housing Help Centre also offers information on landlord and tenant rights and responsibilities, subsidized housing application forms and special needs housing information.

The on-line Housing Help Centre can be reached by clicking on "services" and then "housing" at www.region.halton.on.ca

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What's Inside



Under 7 and Under 5 soccer finals took place this week. See Sports (Page 13) for details.



Cruise Night in Rockwood attracted some unusual vehicles like the one above. See Page 12 for photos.



Look for The New Tanner registration package on Pages 9, 10 and 11.



That dead Oakville Blue Jay has been confirmed as a victim of West Nile Virus. See Page 3.

THIS WEEK'S INSERTS
IGA
Home Hardware
Acton Bowling Lanes

Plan major redevelopment on Main St. N.

Region lifts water use ban

Halton Region lifted its outdoor water use ban on Monday, August 27.

The Region was grateful to residents and businesses that complied with the ban for helping to preserve essential water supplies during the recent drought. Patrick Murphy, Halton Region's Commissioner of Planning and Public Works, said: "The public's support was excellent."

While capacity of the Region's reservoirs is able to meet consumer demand, residents and businesses are reminded to use water wisely throughout the year.



90 CANDLES: Acton's Jessie Robertson, celebrated her 90th birthday at the home of her daughter Phyllis Patrick on Sunday.

Mini-mall, offices, hotel possible

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
 The New Tanner

A mini-mall, professional office space and a hotel are possible redevelopment options being considered by two Guelph partners who own three adjacent properties on Main Street north.

Darren Hastings and Paul Morrison own the Cogeco cable building, the vacant Manor rest home and the former Herrington Printing building, that is currently partially rented.

The partner's agent, Orville Gates, said they've hired a planner to prepare a plan – based on return on investment – for the properties, either separately or as a whole.

Gates said they bought the former Manor several months ago because it's strategically located between their two other properties.

"If somebody were to come along and offer to lease (the Manor) with anything they felt they could sustain, we would renovate to suit them, but right now we have nothing on the go," Gates said on Monday, adding they've made some repairs already to the building, including a new roof and replacement of some broken windows."

Gates said when Cogeco moves out of the cable building in December, (apparently

Continued on Page 2.

Hard work, plenty of sleep is Jessie's recipe for good, long life

Hard work and plenty of sleep. That's the lifestyle that has allowed Acton's Jessie Robertson to live a good long life. Surrounded by her family and friends, who wished her many more happy returns, Robertson celebrated her 90th birthday on Sunday.

"I'm in pretty good health, except for a sore foot," Robertson said on Friday as she prepared to be feted at the birthday party on Sunday at her daughter Phyllis Patrick's home.

Robertson, the eldest of seven children of Violet and Sandy Mann, was born Aug. 27, 1911 and lived all of her life in Acton. After attending the Stone School, she worked at the local knitting mill and married Norm Robertson in 1929.

They moved into a rented house on Young Street and then into the house across the street where she grew up. Robertson laughs that she's the oldest person on the street and said she missed all of the people who have died and the days when everyone knew all of their neighbours.

"Things sure have changed. The neighbourhood is different – we had a lovely neighbour here. The houses have changed and it's built up so much with so many city people here. You used to go down town shopping and know everybody," she said, adding she would still hate to leave Acton.

The Robertsons had two daughters, Phyllis and Glenice, both of whom live in Acton. Widowed in 1985, Robertson

lives alone and spends her time doing a bit of gardening and visiting with her daughters.

"There's not many of my friends alive now," Robertson lamented, adding her only surviving sister, Helen, lives in Hamilton but isn't able to visit as often as she'd like.

Robertson was well known for her prize winning baking and handicrafts at local fall fairs, winning several prizes for most overall points for canning and jam making.

"I entered (fair exhibits) for 22 years I guess, but I don't have much interest now. I'm up around six every morning and I listen to the news on the radio or television so I can follow what's going on. It's a good life."

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