

Acton woman Town's first female firefighter

Halton Hills' first female firefighter, and an Acton dad following in his son's footsteps, are among the seven new part-time firefighters who received their diplomas at a ceremony at the Civic Centre last night (Wednesday).

Also at the ceremony leading up to Fire Safety Week, the Halton Hills fire department awarded Fire Service Exemplary Service Medals to 10 veteran firefighters.

Cathy Trudelle, a Hamilton paramedic who

lives in Acton, is the first woman part-time firefighter in Halton Hills. Her can-do attitude and physical abilities quickly dispelled any gender issues in the male-dominated firefighting ranks.

Recently retired Halton police officer Bob Andrews also graduated and will now fight fires alongside his son, Michael Andrews, a part-time firefighter in Acton.

The other new firefighter at Acton's District One station is Geoff Heinz, a law and securities

graduate, who works at Achilles Mazda as parts manager.

Ten senior firefighters with a combined record of service that total more than 200 years, received service medals from Mayor Kathy Gastle.

Acton firefighters with more than 20 years of service whom were honoured included Captain Bill McGilloway, Capt. Doug Hewitt, Capt. David Ford, and Acting-Capt. Steve McKnight, retired Capt. John Murray and firefighter Lyle Prueter.



Cathy Trudelle

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What's Inside



Acton Subway owners Gus and Maria Galimanas have another honour to grace their wall of fame. See Page 5 and 7 for story and photo.



Acton's Community Brunch launched into the new season on Sunday with the Kinettes and the C.W.L. providing the brunches. See Page 5 for more.



Acton Citizens' Band was the recipient of two cheques at the final trunk sale of the season. See Page 8.



Acton Legion members played host to veterans from Sunnybrook Hospital on Sunday. See story on Page 2.

Gary Barton Community Champion

Student trips are cancelled

School trips planned for destinations outside Canada are still on hold for students of the Halton District School Board. The trips were suspended two weeks ago after the September 11th, 2001 terrorist attacks in the United States, due to concerns for the safety of students and staff.

This moratorium on trips outside Canada will remain in effect until December 31st, 2001.

"Schools may make tentative inquiries for trips outside Canada after December 31, 2001, but we are asking schools not to make firm bookings or financial commitments," says Al Greyson, Supt. of Education.



COMMUNITY CHAMP: Acton pharmacist Gary Barton, with wife Heather Barton (right), received a Community Champion award from Mayor Kathy Gastle during Sunday's Community Brunch at the arena/community centre.

Compassion, generosity cited for award

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

Gary Barton's compassion and unlimited generosity to many Acton groups has been recognized with a Community Champion Award.

The pharmacist and former Glenlea Drug Mart co-owner received a plaque, pin, gift certificate and heartfelt thanks from Mayor Kathy Gastle on Sunday during the Community Brunch at the Acton arena/community centre.

The Community Champion program applauds unsung heroes and random acts of kindness and Barton's nomination says he "always goes out of his way to accommodate requests for support." It also applauds Barton for subsidizing a seniors' foot care clinic and sponsoring a fundraising curling bonspiel for Big Brothers and Halton Hills Community Support and Information.

"Gary always goes above and beyond the call of duty. We are lucky to have such a compassionate pharmacist," his nominator wrote.

After the ceremony Barton said he was "thrilled" to have been nominated, but wasn't expecting it.

"I couldn't think of anything special or different that

Continued on Page 2.

Acton gardener honoured by Province

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

One of Acton's most avid, generous and knowledgeable gardeners has been honoured by his peers with a provincial horticultural award.

Steve Palichuk, one of the founding members of the Acton Horticultural Society, received a horticultural service award from Ontario Horticultural Association at a ceremony last Tuesday in Acton.

Palichuk said he was "shocked and surprised" with the provincial award, but also grateful.

"It's quite an honour," he said on Sunday.

The son of prairie farmers, Palichuk said his love of gardening "just comes naturally, I guess."

The Palichuks' two-acre country property looks like a garden centre with beds of flowers, vegetables and fruit trees, many which find their way into public flower beds and planters around Acton.

Society president Max MacSween said Palichuk deserves the prestigious award for "going beyond the call of duty" for the Society for more than 12 years and being instrumental, with his wife Nina, in starting to beautify downtown Acton.

"He's one of the fathers... he's one of the ones that helped start planting downtown, and he always followed it up and

worked like a dog," MacSween said.

At the ceremony MacSween thanked Palichuk for his hard work on the Society board of directors and in the gardens where he "babied" plants, getting ready for the annual plant sale.

"Steve gets results because you soon realize he loves gardening, helping inexperienced gardeners and directing them to the Acton Horticultural Society he helped create and is so proud of," MacSween wrote in his nomination of Palichuk for the provincial award.

Acton Horticultural Society member Karen Brozic received a President's Award for her hard work and dedication after taking over as program director.

See photo on Page 5.

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