

Police still mum on Virgin homicide investigation

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

The OPP continues to keep a tight lid on a homicide investigation into the death of former Acton resident Matthew Virgin, who died in hospital after being found beaten by the side of the road in rural Georgetown last month.

The OPP media contact, Constable Keith

Robb, said case detectives haven't released any information, despite him asking for updates "several times."

"I don't know. It's big secret, to them," Robb said on Tuesday, adding he had not received an update on a white car, seized by police from Cook Street, and sent for forensic testing.

A Virgin family spokesman said they aren't hearing anything from police, either.

"It's almost like it didn't happen," the spokesman said on Tuesday, adding they know investigations can take a long time.

"I think everybody is getting a little anxious, but the family aren't phoning police, they're just trying to get back to their own regimen. I'm pretty confident they will arrest somebody."

The spokesman said police are pleased with

the level of co-operation they are getting from Acton young people, including those who were at the same party Virgin attended on the Ninth Line, before he was found at the side of the road.

OPP ask anyone with information—specifically anyone who travelled on the Ninth Line between Wellington Road 42 and 32 Side Road, between 2 and 5 a.m. September 9, to call them at 519-822-7250

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What's Inside



The old stone mill in Eden Mills, a landmark in the village, is being restored and converted from water to solar power. See story on Page 4.



Mike says there's too much fear mongering going on because of President Bush's decision to bomb terrorist strongholds in Afghanistan. See Page 5.



This weekend, with the trees displaying their fall colours, is a good time for a drive in the country or a walk in the woods. See Page 12.



The house league hockey season is in full swing and there's a full report on Page 9.

Continue clean-up of Beardmore land

Blood Clinic today

The long Thanksgiving weekend makes it imperative that blood supplies at Canadian Blood Services (CBS) get a boost. The increase in traffic accidents creates a need for more blood transfusions.

CBS is holding a blood donor clinic today (Thursday, Oct. 11) at Acton Legion from 4 to 8pm. The Legion hall is located on 15 Wright Ave., off Mill St. W.

Healthy people from 17 to 70 can give blood every 56 days, although first time donors must be under the age of 61. There are 59 hospitals across Central Ontario which depend on blood donors to deal with emergencies, especially those after long weekends.



LOOKING FOR HOMES: Dr. Stephen Hess and Kelly Turkosz of the Acton Veterinary Clinic hold some of the many homeless cats and dogs they are harbouring until they can find homes for them. Dr. Hess says it is not uncommon for people to dump their pets on the clinic's doorstep, hoping they can find homes for them.

Recent activity part of clean-up

The presence of construction equipment and work crews on the Beardmore property is part of the on-going decommissioning of the former tannery land.

Recent activity on the site, south of Acton, east of Highway 25, led Acton Councillor Clark Somerville to ask for a staff update.

Rick Henry, the Town's manager of design and development, told councillors last week that Conestoga-Rovers & Associates of Waterloo, the environmental engineering firm hired by land owner Maple Leaf Foods, is continuing the clean-up program.

Conestoga-Rovers was hired by Maple Leaf Food's predecessor, Canada Packers, to decommission the site.

They received a demolition permit in 1998 and began phase one of the project, taking down the tannery buildings and consolidation of waste in an existing landfill almost two years ago.

Phase two of the cleanup, excavation and consolidation of soils and sediments in two on-site landfills was completed last year. Final closure of two existing landfills is scheduled to be complete before the end of next year.

Jeffrey Miller, Maple Leaf's director of legal affairs

More debate on Kingham parking

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

A possible option to increase parking on congested Kingham Road, using boulevard bay parking on the north side—where parking is now banned—will be discussed at a public meeting at the Boat House tonight (Thursday).

The second public meeting arranged by Acton and Halton Councillor Rick Bonnette will suggest options and costs to improve parking before Council begins budget deliberations.

Kingham residents are divided over widening the road to increase parking, and at the first Boat House meeting last February, Town staff agreed to come back with options and

area residents rejected a staff suggestion that they pay for a parking permit, or share the cost of widening the road. Condo board officials have said they've provided as much on-site parking as they can, and have even paved over playgrounds.

In the early 1970s, the Town allowed the developer of the three Kingham con-

dominium projects to build the road two feet narrower than standard, as a concession for providing much-needed affordable housing.

Only 1.5 parking spaces per unit were required and the advent of two-car families resulted in major parking problems, and in the winter, a safety problem when snow banks narrow the road even further.

Last fall, the Town extended the existing 12-hour permissive parking zone on the south side of Kingham, the west leg

Continued on Page 3

Continued on Page 2

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