

Looking back at 2001

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

What a welcome whirlwind of activity occurred in Acton this past year - a year that began with anticipation of 500 jobs at a new car plant, and ended with the opening of a new food store in a new plaza, adjacent to a huge new housing development.

Along with news of big business decisions, human stories of loves lost, personal triumphs and tragedy filled the pages of past issues of The New Tanner. Here's a look back at 2001.

JANUARY

Magna mania grips Acton with news the car parts giant is eyeing a piece of land on Highway 25, north of the tracks, for a 500-job plant.

Acton merchants report no last minute rush of shoppers, but people spent more holiday shopping than last year, and they treated themselves.

Acton tries to shake off a particularly nasty December that featured the coldest temperatures in a decade and double the usual amount of snow.

Acton high school teachers continue sanctions - no lunchroom supervision or after-school activities - after a pre-Christmas marathon bargaining session with the public school board fails to reach an agreement.

A knife-wielding man robs the lone female clerk of less than \$1,000 at Acton Town Milk in an "unusual, but not uncommon," armed robbery.

Magna officials say Acton is one of several possible locations for its state-of-the-art hydroforming plant.

The Acton Tanners host their annual Christmas hockey tournament featuring fast paced play, skill competitions and fun.

Halton Hills Fire Chief Bill Cunningham retires after 18 years as boss, ending a 31-year firefighting career.

North Halton environmentalist Rita Landry wins a five-year court fight against the previous owners of the Acton quarry for quarrying without a required permit.

Transport Canada promises rail barrier gates will be installed by May at the Fourth Line rail crossing where three Acton teens were killed.

Acton Figure Skating Club member, Krista Petty of Rockwood, makes her debut at the Canadian nationals, placing 20th overall.

A study called "scary and informative" by Councilor Bryan Lewis, shows the rising drug use of Halton stu-



JANUARY: The coldest temperatures in a decade and twice the usual amount of snow leaves Acton shivering and shovelling.

dents mirrors that of other students across Ontario.

FEBRUARY

With hopes that Magna will pick us, Acton prepares for Valentine's Day.

With approximately \$275,000 in the building fund kitty and a membership very eager to get into a new building, the Acton Agricultural Society says it should know by the mid-March if it can afford to build a new facility in Prospect Park in time for this September's fair.

Acton Village Constable Bill Riddle prepares to retire the end of the month, ending a 34-year law enforcement career with just one re-

gret - he doesn't want to retire.

Assistant Deputy Fire Chief Bob Meads says fire safety response in Acton relies partially on luck, because there's no system in place to ensure that any or all of the Town's 35 part-time firefighters will answer their emergency pages.

Acton's Trevor Ritchie, 44, was named Canada's Driver of the Year at the national harness racing awards, sponsored by Standardbred Canada. Ritchie won over \$4.8 million in purse money last year.

Police ask for help locating Beaver Gas Bar attend-

ant Eugene Novicky, who disappeared along with some cash and cigarettes.

Grade 3 student Tyler Townsley urges his fellow classmates at Robert Little School to make donations for

HAPPY NEW YEAR!
from
Acton Denture Clinic
Tracy Mitchell D.D.
Monday, Dec. 31st - CLOSED
Tuesday, Jan. 1st - CLOSED
Wednesday, Jan. 2nd - Regular Hours
(519) 853-0079
MasterCard VISA 130 Mill Street East, #103 Acton

victims of the India earthquake fund.

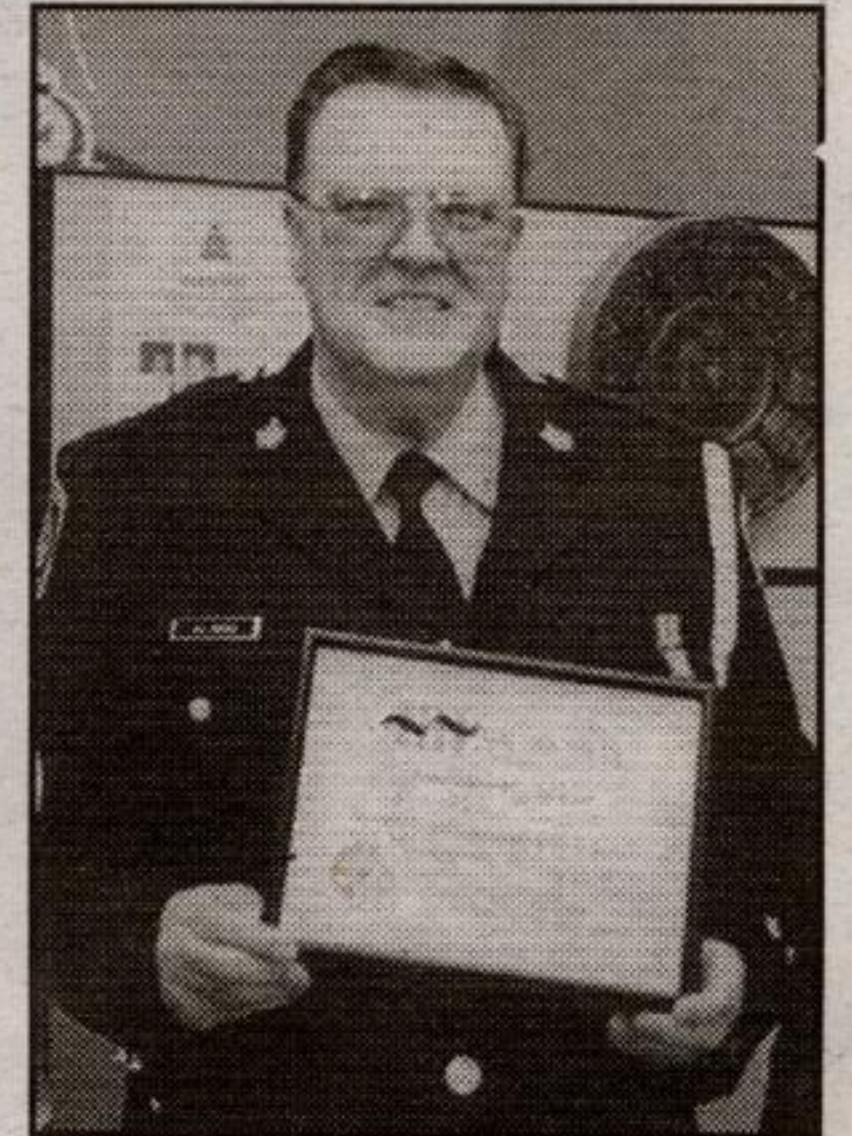
St. Joseph Catholic School principal Jim McGeragle announces his retirement, effective the end of the month, ending a 31-year career in education.

The first emergency shelter bed for homeless Halton youths opens at the Spruce Lane Young Offenders facility on Highway 25.

Halton Hills Hydro warns customers about high-pressure electricity salespeople going door-to-door in Acton.

Acton's Lawrence

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FEBRUARY: Acton Village Constable Bill Riddle announces plans to retire.

Let the Countdown Begin.
Everyone Welcome
New Year's Gala
Acton Legion Br. 197
7 p.m. to 1 a.m.
Entertainment by: Music Machine
Admission \$50/person
Includes:
• Party Favours •
• Buffet • 6 Drinks •
(LLBO Reg.)

The Dance Inn
SCHOOL OF DANCE
CDTA RAD
New 12-Week Gymnastics And Hip Hop Programs STARTING JAN 7th
Registration Saturday Jan 5th 11am-3pm
CLASS DAY & TIME
Tumbling Tots Mon. ~ 5:00-5:45 pm
Pre-Cheergym ~ 5-7 yrs Mon. ~ 5:45-6:45 pm
Jr. Cheergym ~ 8-11 yrs Mon. ~ 6:45-7:45 pm
Int. Cheergym ~ 12+ yrs Mon. ~ 7:45-8:45 pm
Jr. Hip Hop ~ 8-11 yrs Fri. ~ 5:30-6:30 pm
Int. Hip Hop ~ 12-15 yrs Fri. ~ 6:30-7:30 pm
Teen/Adult Hip Hop Fri. ~ 7:30-8:30 pm
Studio Located at #12 Wallace St., Acton (entrance off Perth St.)
Call 853-8628

Start the New Year Fresh!
This year, make a resolution to shop smart. We offer guaranteed-fresh, quality products at low prices, so smart shopping is always in the bag!
HOLIDAY HOURS
We will be closing 6pm on Monday, Dec. 31st
Tuesday, Jan. 1st - CLOSED
Re-opening Wednesday, Jan. 2nd at 8am
GARDEN MARKET IGA
Fresh, Fast & Friendly!
Acton Market Place Plaza
372 Queen St. E. ~ 853-1960
Open 24 Hrs. ~ 7 Days (except Holidays)
VISA MasterCard DIRECT DEPOSIT