

Emergency Fund keeps youth centres open till July

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

There's at least \$5,800 in the emergency fund to keep the Acton youth centre, and one in Georgetown, open until the end of June and fundraisers are confident the balance of the necessary \$10,000 will be raised.

"There's no government funding for kids aged six and up - youth programs are unfunded and that's where the greatest need is," said John Day, a Georgetown councillor who has volunteered to lead the effort to find both short and long term funding for the centres,

slated for closure in just over two weeks because of money problems.

"I'm optimistic. Everybody in the two communities has agreed to work together and make it happen," Day said, adding one Georgetown church has challenged another to raise money for the youth centres, operated by Halton Hills Community Support and Information (HHCSI.)

One Acton minister, who sat on a community liaison committee with HHCSI when Off The Wall was being planned, wonders what happened to the vision they had for youth services.

Former Trinity United Church minister, the Reverend Bob Matton, Matton is "annoyed" with earlier comments made by HHCSI executive director Joan Barham, that opening the Mill Street youth centre was a calculated risk without having on-going funding in place.

"Joan (Barham) implicitly, if not explicitly, discredits the vision that we were offering, because I think youth services are needed," Matton said on Friday, adding earlier suggestions from the mayor, and others, to save rent by looking for space in a local church reveals how "out of touch some peo-

ple are with the situation."

Matton suggested local officials should ask Halton MPP Ted Chudleigh to get help, beyond Trillium foundation grants, from Queen's Park.

On Friday night, Chudleigh, in Acton to bring Provincial congratulations to the Acton Citizen of the Year, was unaware that the two youth centres were slated to close.

"Oh, dear," Chudleigh said after being asked to comment on the situation and what he could do to help.

"Can I do anything? Probably not much,"
Continued on Page 4

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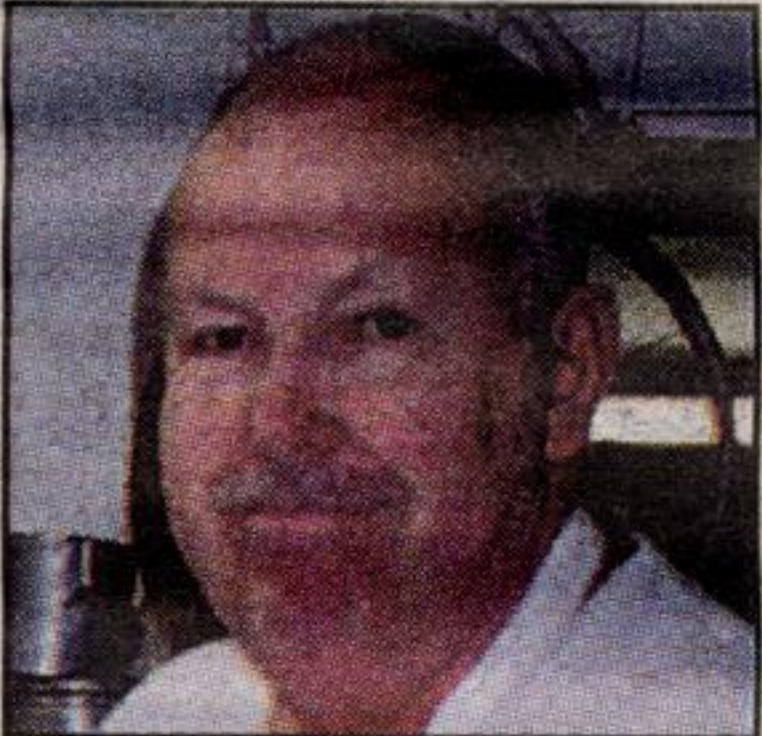
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What's Inside



Acton honoured Citizen of the Year Gary Barton last Friday. See Page 3



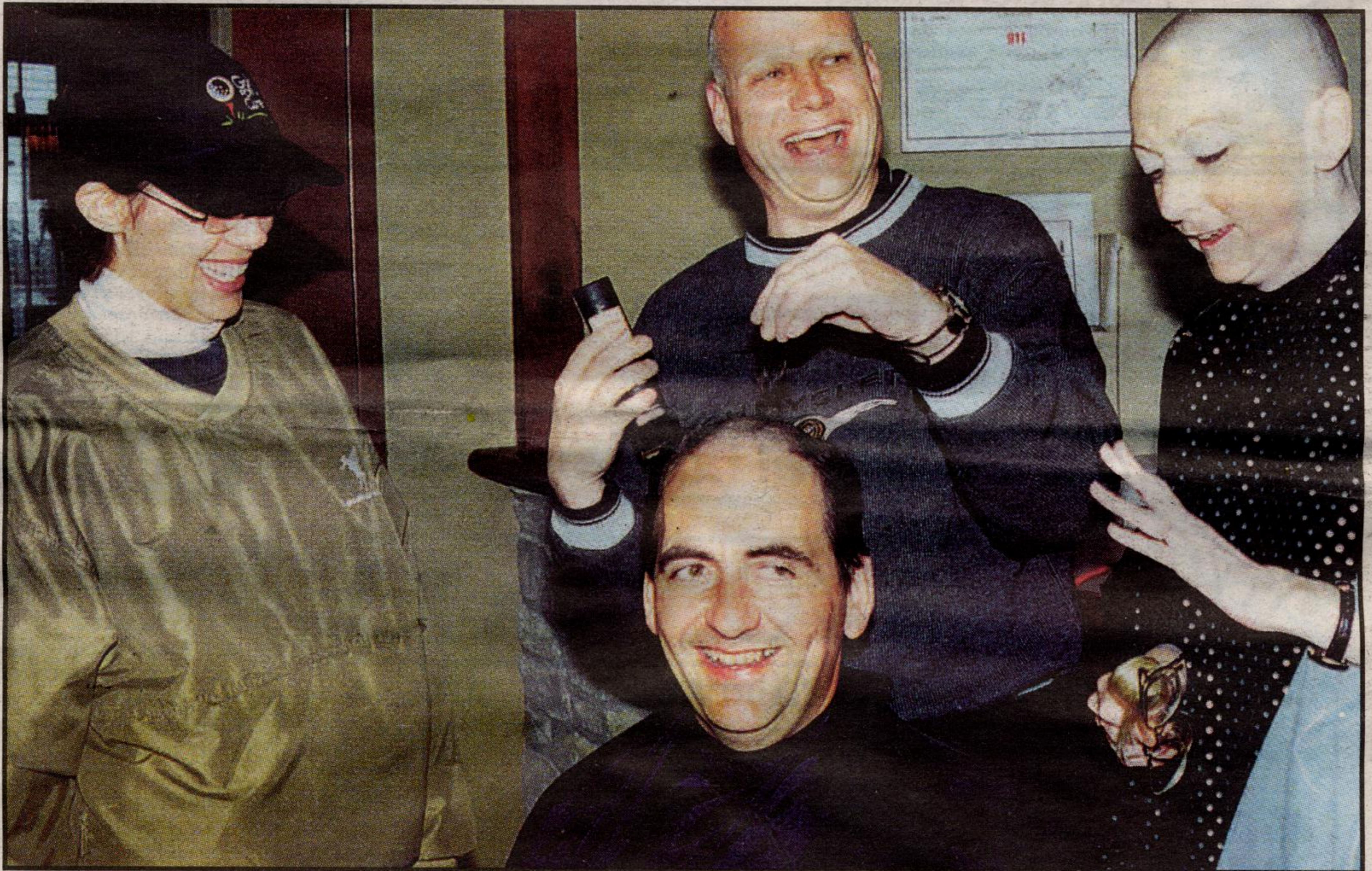
After 45 years at Rockwood's Saunders Bakery, Roy Nightingale is hanging up his apron. See Page 11



Water woes in Lakeview subdivision were thoroughly explored at a meeting last week. See Page 4



The focus is on substance abuse at Acton High School. See Page 2 for story



GOING...GOING...GONE: Hairdresser Monica Galway, left, enjoys the palaver as businessman Norm Paulsen, who won the hair razing challenge issued by Councillor Clark Somerville, centre, and later joined by Heather Vanderweide, right, allows the two losers to remove his hair at Blue Springs Golf Club Monday during the Paul Murr Golf Tourney. The trio raised over \$2,500 to aid the fight against cancer. See story and photos on Page 10.

Town gets \$3.1 million for leisure centre

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

Federal and Provincial politicians backed up their broad smiles and hearty handshakes with big bucks for Halton Hills late Monday afternoon.

While the Town knew it would receive \$1.57-million

from the Ontario SuperBuild program to help pay for an \$11.3-million community recreation centre in Georgetown South,

Town CAO Steve Andrews learned the federal government would match that money when shown a joint government press release while waiting for the

Honourable Andy Mitchell, Secretary of State (Rural Development (FedNor.) to arrive at the Civic Centre to make an announcement.

"This is terrific. We will be able to build everything that we could possibly build," Andrews said after scanning the joint release.

"This is just a dream come

true that we will actually be able to build just a spectacular facility for the whole Town of Halton Hills."

The stop in Halton Hills was the last of the day for Minister Mitchell who had made five similar announcements in happy Ontario communities earlier that day.

"Community centres are

an important part of the community - it's basically part of the soul - a part of what makes it (a community) whole," Mitchell said as announced the funding, flanked local federal, provincial and Town politicians, Town officials and a representative of Mold-Masters, which helped

Continued on Page 13

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