

Acton businesses want more police on streets

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

There is a "grave" need for cops to spend more time walking the beat in downtown Acton according to some local business owners who feel "vulnerable" because of ongoing vandalism and loitering.

Twenty members of the Acton Woman to Woman business association signed a

petition requesting increased police presence last week, and another 30 Acton merchants signed the petition, which was forwarded to police and the Town, on Monday.

A downtown business owner who did not want to be identified said they need help because it "seems like the kids are taking over."

"There's a group of kids that go busi-

ness to business in a group and hang around and they are just disturbing everybody and causing damage everywhere they go," she said on Tuesday.


The businesswoman recounted an incident last month when she called police to report youths vandalizing the entrance to a neighbouring business, and police refused to come because it was not her property.

"I thought, this is not good. Maybe a Neighbour Watch (is needed) - maybe something where they would respond if a fellow businessperson called about an incident," she said.

New downtown business owner, Kristine Cieslok, said they've been very fortunate and have not had any incidents to

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Your Hometown Newspaper

Volume 7 No. 2
Thursday, January 15, 2004

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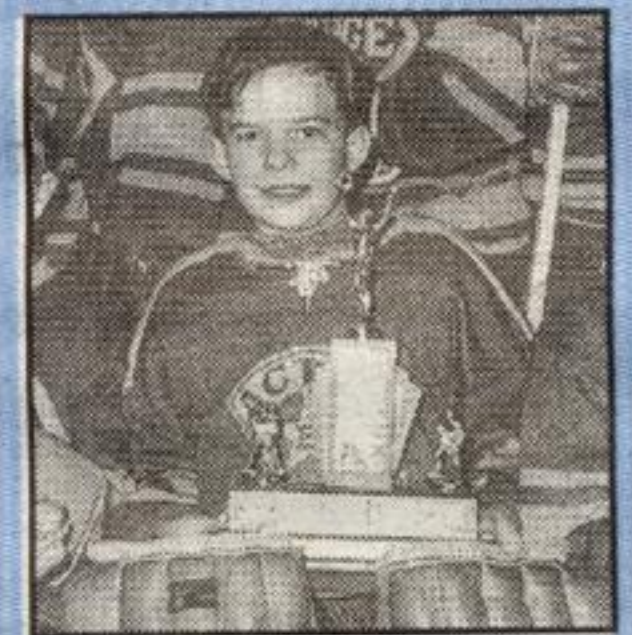
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What's Inside



How cold was it on Wednesday morning? Some reported temperatures as low as -24° Celsius. See Page 5.



Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette was practising stopping shots as far back as 1967. See Page 7.



Acton House League teams have a new name. See Page 13 for the skinny.

Mac Sprowl traces the history of assessment back to 1793. See page 10.

IGA has new franchise owner



Robert Little School's Dance Club in new shirts - Ted Tyler Photo

School's Dance Club colourful shirts courtesy of Trunk Sale

Robert Little's "Everybody Dance Club" is proud to be wearing their new custom designed and made ProJoy shirts, that were purchased through the generous donation of \$500 from the Acton Trunk Sale and a donation from David Burland of Johnson & Associates.

When the dance club put on an awesome performance on June 9, 2003 at the Senior Recreation Centre, the dancers wore shirts, which were red, white, grey or pink. It was after this when the Acton Trunk

Sale suggested that the dancers would look even better if they all wore the same shirts, subsequently offering to help pay for them.

Everybody Dance Club is comprised of 50 stu-

dents in grades 2-5 who practise a variety of dances every Friday. Marie Burland, a teacher at Robert Little, began Everybody Dance Club in Oct. 2002 and is continually motivated by the enthusiastic response of dancers. Lisa Hasselfeldt is assisting this year with the club.

BRRRR IT'S GOLD

Sobeys severs relationship with Manes

Acton IGA employees met their new boss on Saturday. Bill Graham, with wife Elizabeth Green, is the new franchisee at the independently owned store in Acton East.

Kathy Norgate, spokesperson for Sobeys, said in an interview that Sobeys "severed" its relationship with owner Mike Manes, son of recently retired Dave Manes, who had 44 years in the Acton food business.

Mike Manes told The New Tanner that Sobeys severed their agreement after differences between both parties. Mr. Manes said he is reviewing the situation and exploring his options.

On Monday, Graham said "no comment" when asked about plans for the store, asking for time to "get my feet wet." "I'm just getting in here and meeting the staff," Graham said, inviting an interview in a week and directing questions to Sobeys Ontario director of communications, Kelly Norgate.

On Saturday, citing confidentiality, Norgate refused to say if Sobeys and Manes are still on

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