

Fund-raising for new Prospect Park building going well

To date the Acton Agricultural Society has raised close to \$200,000 toward its new building at Prospect Park.

Fund-raising co-ordinator Janis Fread said, over the past year, several fund-raising events have been held to raise money for the agricultural society's new building which is to be constructed on the site of the old Prospect Park arena. The Society hopes to have it built for the 2000 Acton Fair.

She said those events, along with others organized by the Homecraft Division of the Acton Agricultural Society and donations from the community, have raised about \$74,000 for the new building to date. That, combined with the agricultural society's building fund, brings the total to just under \$200,000, more than half of its \$350,000 goal.

Doug Fread, chair of the Society's building committee, said they are planning on building a 15,000 sq. ft. pre-engineered steel building with a nice entrance in the footprint of the old arena.

Initially it will be constructed as a big hall, but as money is raised it

will be renovated to include a reception hall, meeting room and catering kitchen. The Society is planning to rent it out throughout the year.

He said the building committee is currently in the process of hiring an architect to design the structure and working with the town on the agreement for the use of the property.

Janis Fread said the Acton Agricultural Society has steadily produced profitable fairs over the past few years and the 1999 fair was the most profitable to date resulting in healthy annual deposits to the building fund.

Recent fund-raising projects included a fashion show of Elizabeth's Fashions put on by the Society's Homecraft Division, and the staffing of the gates for two days at Erin Fall Fair.

"We are very appreciative of the support we have received from both the business community and individuals, who have come forward with donations and fund-raising support," she said.

She said the agricultural society's recently distributed Building Our Future sponsorship brochure has

been well received by the community and the Society is receiving several forms and donations ranging from \$10 to \$750. The bulk of the donations however, have been in the \$50 to \$100 range.

She said every person who contributes \$10 or more will be issued an income tax receipt in the new year. Every donation of \$50 or more will be recognized by a name plaque on the Friends of the Fair wall in the foyer of the new building.

Upcoming fund-raising projects include the sale of tickets for a seven-foot artificial Christmas tree donated by Kathy and Steve Papillon. The tree, valued at \$1,000, will be decorated by Details and Design. Tickets are available from Home Hardware in Acton, from agricultural society members or by calling the Acton Agricultural Society (853-4699) and leaving a message. Tickets are \$2 each or six for \$10.

Also ahead is the second annual Acton Winter Fair in late January.

—By Lisa Tallyn, staff writer

Region Y2K brochure is in the mail this week

A brochure, pronouncing Halton Y2K ready, will be distributed to all homes in the region this week.

The brochure, a collaborative effort between Halton Region, Halton Regional Police Service, and the municipalities of Halton Hills, Burlington, Milton and Oakville.

The Y2K problem, also known as the millennium bug, is all about computers and microchips getting confused and misinterpreting "00" in a date code as the year 1900 instead of 2000. Left uncorrected, this could cause systems to shutdown, malfunction or lose important information.

The brochure outlines the Y2K status of several essential services provided to Halton residents including ambulance, fire, police, hospitals, water and wastewater, telephone, traffic control systems, hydro and gas. For more information call Brian Ellsworth, Y2K public information, 877-1133.

Residents who don't receive the brochure by mail can pick one up in the lobby of the Halton Hills Civic Centre or Halton Region Administrative Centre.



Guide to the Outdoors

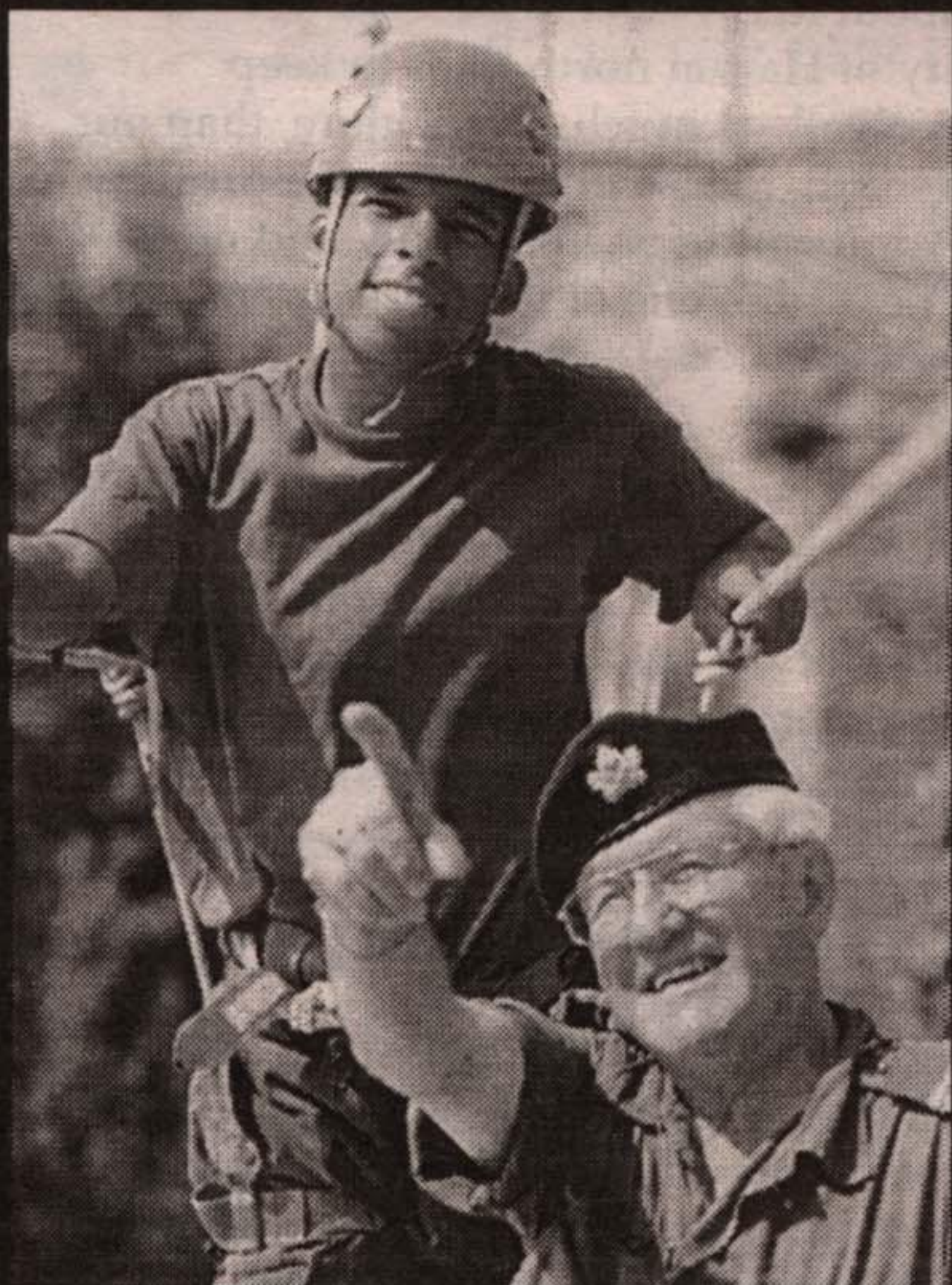
Julie Pomeroy



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Hours: Monday - Friday 9-5; Saturday 11-4; Closed Sunday. Appointments available after hours upon request.