

Two decisions will benefit town

Recently, council made two significant decisions that will positively affect Halton Hills for years to come. The expansion of the Georgetown Library, and the lack of a facility for the Acton Agricultural Society, have both been bones of contention for some time.

On Tuesday, May 9, council made the decision to purchase a property on Market Street. This will allow the library to remain in downtown Georgetown. Before this purchase was made, the library board did a preliminary design study to see if it would be feasible to expand the library on this site. The results showed that it could be done.

Councillor Jane Fogal deserves credit for first discovering that this property was going on the market. I'd like to thank the many of you who took the time to write letters and e-mails expressing your concerns about your desire to keep the library in downtown Georgetown. With this purchase, and the recently approved parking lot on Main Street, downtown Georgetown will be viable for many years. It is fair to say we listened to you!

Since the Acton Arena in Prospect Park was demolished, the Acton Fall Fair, a 92-year-old organization that never missed a year, was forced to go forward without a major component of a fair's success.

By renting tents, the Fall Fair has been able to go forward under less than ideal conditions. The Acton Agricultural Society had been working with staff and other community organizations. They came up with a wonderful solution— to build a building that will be home to the Acton Fall Fair, but will also double as an indoor soccer facility. Both Georgetown and Acton soccer organizations have bought into the concept.

The Town, with conditions, has approved a \$1.3 million loan. The revenue generated by



the soccer clubs will offset the loan. There will be a fundraising campaign to be launched immediately. The Acton Agricultural Society has already raised \$250,000 at this time. There is no doubt in my mind that this will be a great facility in Acton that will benefit all of Halton Hills.

May 9 was indeed an historic night for two longtime components that make our town special. Congratulations to all of you who were involved in these creative solutions.

On behalf of council, I welcome the following new business: Moxxi Boutique, downtown Georgetown.

Congratulations to the Poullos family and staff of Outdoor Power Equipment who recently celebrated 20 years in business.

Unsung heroes of the Georgetown Welcome Wagon— Gail Bibby-Labranche, Polee Mark, and Joan Lieve— have presented a plaque to our town for Outstanding Community of the Year 2005, in the 15,000 to 35,000 population category.

Keeping it real! I can be reached by telephone at 905-873-2601, ext. 2342, or by e-mail at mayor@haltonhills.ca

—Rick Bonnette is the mayor of Halton Hills

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