



## Quite the quilts

Brody Spencer, 4, (left) admires quilts that were on display during the recent Halton Hills Quilters Guild show held at the Acton Arena. (Right) Joan Pepping (left) won the second place prize with Joyce Winger winning first place in the draw held by the Guild.

Photos by Sabrina Byrnes



# Acton High's Relay For Life expected to attract 200

**MARISSA KIDD**  
Special to The IFP

Again this year, Acton High School students will be walking, jogging and strolling around the school track for 12 hours to raise funds for the Canadian Cancer Society.

Friday, June 2 to Saturday, June 3, the school will be holding its fourth annual student-organized Relay for Life. Spanning the hours of 7 p.m. through 7 a.m., Relay for Life is a non-competitive event that not only fundraises for the Canadian Cancer Society but through a number of activities and the "Cancer Smart Shop," also carries out its mission to educate Canadians about the prevention of this terrible disease.

While students are welcome to pitch tents for their teams in "Tent City", non-stop entertainment provides countless opportunities for students to enjoy their 12-hour stay at the school as they take turns with other team members walking the track. Six live bands, inflatable bouncy houses, movie marathons, contests, local caricaturist Larry De Souza, barbecues, games, contests and more are all lined up to entertain this year's expected 200 Relay participants.

Four years ago, Acton High School's student council became one of the first high schools in Ontario to host a Relay for Life and the event has only grown and improved with each passing year. Over the course of the last three years, this night of fun, friendship and fundraising has involved more than 500 participants and raised more than \$36,000— half of which has gone towards cancer research and one third of which has come back to programs within our very own community.

Each year, the event commences with the Survivors' Lap— a celebratory first lap of the track dedicated to life, survival and victory in the battle against cancer, walked by cancer survivors and their families from the Acton community.

Later in the evening, the Luminary

Ceremony involves the lighting of candles placed in hundreds of white paper bags upon which personal messages and touching words of commemoration, encouragement and hope are illuminated to remember those who have lost their lives to cancer as well as those who are currently battling. Placed around the track to glow all through the night, luminaries are a constant reminder of how deeply cancer affects so many Canadians— the very reason for holding Relay for Life.

For students still wishing to participate, the registration deadline has been extended until today (Friday), and a reminder to all students that volunteers are still needed: Relay for Life is an excellent opportunity to earn community service hours.

Local cancer survivors and their families are also invited to participate in our Survivors' Lap, and members of the community are invited to stop in for the opening ceremonies and lighting of the luminaries until 10 p.m. Tech students from the school will also be documenting the event on film, which will be available for purchase later in the school year. Proceeds will also go to the Canadian Cancer Society.

Anyone interested in participating in the Survivors' Lap, purchasing luminaries (for \$5 apiece), sponsoring a student or just seeking more information are encouraged to contact Relay for Life co-chairs Marissa Kidd or Hayley Burgess at 519-853-2920.

**Ted Brown**



will return next Friday

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