



A litter-free attitude

Acton BIA executive director Josey Bonnette and Halton Hills Wards 1 and 2 Regional Councillor Clark Somerville did a practice run with Melissa Rooney and her eight-month old daughter Emma, as they will be among those out promoting a Litter-Free Halton Hills when they hand out litterbags at all Halton Hills Tim Hortons and McDonald's drive-thrus Wednesday, September 20 during the morning rush and at noon. Town councillors, the mayor, Litter-Free Halton Hills volunteers and Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce volunteers will join with town staff to make Halton Hills litter free.

Photo by Ted Brown

Officer on patrol spots house fire on Hwy. 25

Halton Hills firefighters were called to a house fire on Regional Rd. 25 (Hwy. 25) early Saturday.

A Halton Police officer discovered the fire at approximately 5:30 a.m.

When the fire crew arrived they found the

driveway was partially obstructed due to the overgrowth of the trees and they had to cut their way to the house using a chainsaw.

Firefighters quickly extinguished the blaze.

The cause is still under investigation.

Georgetown man dies after boat capsizes on Lake Ont.

Continued from pg. 1

He said throughout the experience rage built inside because he had his father in his arms and just wanted to get Sutton to safety.

"This is a dream and I want it to end right now," he recalled thinking, but since it wasn't, he thought about his mother and his girlfriend's 14-month-old baby.

"I wanted to do more, but I couldn't," he said. "I wasn't going to let my father go."

Several fishing boats passed by, but nobody saw them, until one passerby finally noticed them and immediately radioed a distress signal around 11 a.m.

That was when police and other boaters converged on the scene to mount the rescue.

Richards, a shipper and receiver with PL Foods in Georgetown, and Sutton were taken to Trillium Health Centre. Sutton was discharged late Sunday afternoon, while

Richards was kept overnight for observation.

Richards said his father, whose passion was fishing, was on disability from a workplace accident in a brake factory that had resulted in his right leg being amputated.

He said his father, whom he called his dearest friend, had taken part in countless fishing derbies in the area over the decades.

"All I know is that I won't step on another boat," said Richards. "I may not even go fishing anymore. It was 'our' thing."

Among the first on the rescue scene were Peter Fairweather and Dan Lotual of Oakville, who found Bryan Richards and Sutton shivering in another fisherman's boat.

Richards was reaching over the stern holding onto his father's leg, unable to pull him over the gunwhale.

"There was no way to hoist him. He was a pretty big guy," said Fairweather.

They hooked a rope around Richards' leg so his son could be treated by police and paramedics.

Roger Richards' brother-in-law John (Jack) Stufko of Georgetown said the man was going to be "greatly missed."

"He had a heart as big as all outdoors and he would help anyone," said Stufko, who added the man was not only his brother-in-law, but his best friend.

"He's helped Linda (Stufko's spouse) and I out so much in the past," he said.

He said Richards loved fishing and had fished all over Ontario.

He said although his boat was called the Left-Handed Newfie, his brother-in-law was not from Newfoundland. He moved to Canada from England several years ago and had lived in Georgetown for about 30 years.

"That (the boat's name) was a trademark of Roger's sense of humour. He was a real

character," said Stufko, who believes Richards named the boat after a friend.

Stufko said Richards had health problems as he was diabetic and had suffered a heart attack in the past. He believes he suffered a heart attack in the water Sunday.

At press time a spokesperson for Peel Regional Police said the results of a post mortem confirm that the cause of death was not drowning, and that Richards heart stoppage was due in part to hypothermia.

Richards is survived by his wife Donna, children Patrick and Bryan and his mother Sarah.

Visitation will be at J.S. Jones & Son Funeral Home tomorrow (Thursday) from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. The funeral and committal service will be held in the chapel Friday at 1 p.m.

—With files from Torstar News Service

Fun starts Friday

Acton Fall Fair will be 'mooving on' this year

"Mooving On!" is the theme of the 93rd Annual Acton Fall Fair set for this weekend.

The fair, to be held at Acton Fairgrounds, kicks off Friday morning at 10 a.m. with Education Day for area school children. Gates open to the public at 4 p.m.

There will be a full midway, exotic and domestic birds in the poultry barn, exhibits in the tent including schoolwork, baking, canning and preserves, plants and flowers, vegetables, junior exhibits, antiques, 4-H needlecrafts, crafts and hobbies and special display classes.

The Ken Jen petting zoo will feature more than 65 animals from around the world.

The Heavy Horse Pull will be held at 6 p.m. and The Essentials will perform at the Miss Acton Fall Fair Pageant and official opening of the fair at 8 p.m.

On Saturday the gates open to the public at 8 a.m., which is also when the English and Western Gymkhana and Games Show begins.

The lineup for that day includes the Poultry Show and Pigeon Show at 9 a.m., the Heavy Horse Show at 10:30 a.m., Light Horse Show at 11 a.m. and parade through Acton into the Fairgrounds at noon.

Also set for noon is the Halton 4-H Pony Mounted Games Show. Horseshow Pitching will begin at 1 p.m., the Baby Show at 1:30 p.m.,

and the MHCO Open Miniature Horse Show at 2 p.m.

The Highway Truck Pull will start at 5:30 p.m., and the Lawn and Garden Tractor Pull will be at 6:30 p.m.

Throughout the day Northern Borders Flyball and Canine Performance Team will perform with Silver Elvis and Flaming Loggersports set for the afternoon.

Local country artist Grand Daniels will perform at 5 p.m., and John Landry and South Mountain will take the stage at 8 p.m.

Gates open again at 8 a.m. Sunday

The lineup for that day includes Sunday Hunter Jumping Schooling Show at 9 a.m., the Beef Cattle Show Halton 4-H Club Achievement Day at 10:30 a.m. and Dairy Cattle Show at 11 a.m.

The Acton Junior Idol Competition will begin at 11:30 a.m.

The Western Horse Show is set for noon along with the 4x4 Truck Pull and Antique Tractor Pull.

The Pet Show will be held at 1 p.m. and the Pedal Tractor Pull at 2 p.m.

Admission to the fair is \$7 for adults, seniors and students and \$3 for children. Children under five are admitted for free.

Weekend passes (\$15) for the fair are available at Bank of Nova Scotia, Bank of Montreal, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and Halton Hills Credit Union.

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