

MSB playground equipment is deemed unsafe and of little value

By FRANCES NIBLOCK
The New Tanner

Safety concerns prompted the decision to remove the wooden playground equipment at McKenzie-Smith Bennett School, leaving hundreds of disappointed kids without any outdoor gym equipment.

A recent inspection by the Town's recreation and parks department found that the metal slide had an irreparable crack, and that wear and tear on the wooden climbing gym raised safety issues and left the equipment with "limited play value."

Under a reciprocal agreement between the Halton District School Board and Halton Hills, Town staff carries out annual inspections of all playground equipment and provides the board with an audit report.

"The wooden posts and boards are also severely worn," said Terry Alyman, the Town's director of recreation and parks, who said the Town's inspection report was forwarded to the board of education, which determined the equipment could not be repaired and would be removed.

In recent years, a wave slide, chain net, sky walker and repel wall were removed from the MSB



UNSAFE PLAYGROUND: A recent inspection found that the playground equipment at McKenzie-Smith Bennett School was unsafe and of "limited play value." It was slated for removal yesterday (Wednesday). — Frances Niblock photo

playground, also for safety-related wear and tear reasons.

Alyman said if the school board approves plans to install new equipment at MSB, Town staff would assist in determining what type would be best. He said a basic playground structure could cost approximately \$35,000, and that the Town has \$4,000 in its budget this year to contribute to new equipment.

MSB principal Dave Swanson said the issue

would be on the agenda at the school council's February 20 meeting.

"The responsibility is ours to replace it if we want a new playground facility out there," Swanson said on Monday, adding the school board does not have any money for playground equipment.

"I can't speak for the council, but my hunch is that they're going to be supportive of rebuilding and looking for a variety of funding sources — whether it's donations

and contributions from the Town, businesses, corporate, families and fundraising — I imagine its going to be a combination of all of those things," Swanson said.

He said it may take a couple of years to raise the money, but it's important because it is a big community that uses the park and equipment, not just students at MSB.

The equipment was scheduled for removal yesterday (Wednesday).

FIT TO BE TRIED

In-home Personal Fitness Training



Give your sweetie the gift of great fitness!

Rockwood
(519) 831-3221
Margaret Iutzi
B.A. CPTN, C.F.C.

www.rockwoodbusiness.ca

Attention Seniors

To alleviate the high cost of heating for 2006
Branch 197 of the
Royal Canadian Legion
Will provide a **one time** grant to Seniors.

To be eligible you must provide

- Proof of Residence in the Town of Acton
- Copy of recent existing heating charges for that residence
- Be a recipient and have proof of GIS from the Federal Government
- You may be renting, but are paying heating costs and provide proof thereof
- You may be married or single
- You must be over 65 Years of age

At apply send your name and address to:

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 197
15 Wright Ave.
Box 69
Acton ON
L7J 2M2

Attn. David Crook

Chairman Veterans & Seniors

Branch 853-0910, Home telephone 853-0275

All replies will be held in the strictest of confidence.

No applications accepted after Feb. 28/06

Super centre dazzles...

Continued from page 6
way home because it would probably be quicker.

On the drive home I decided the super store is too much for me. If I want to buy shoes, I'll go to a shoe store. When I go grocery shopping, that is the only thing I want to do. I like knowing the cashiers where I shop. I like knowing I'll see people I know and can say "hi" to them. I like knowing that although they may not always actually care, the cashier always asks me how I am. I would rather shop in a smaller store than be overwhelmed with too much.

As I was telling a friend about my experience, she said something which I thought was a little funny at the time. "You know, I miss the old IGA downtown." As I thought about it, I kind of do as well. At the time it was the "new" IGA with its fancy computer checkout and larger store. Pictures of old Acton adorned the walls near the ceiling. The aisles were so narrow you could only move down them in one direction. It was a big event when it opened in town.

We may have a new, larger grocery than the "old" IGA that was downtown and no, it may not be a 'super centre'

but for me, a 'super centre' is just too much and another reason for me to do my grocery shopping in town.

Blooms Away Flowers & Gifts

Give her a Dozen
Reasons why she
loves you.

Pre-Order by Feb. 12
and receive a
\$10.00*

Blooms Away
Gift Certificate.

*On orders over \$20

Our Extended Hours will be:
Sunday 10:00 am - 5:00 pm
Monday 9:30 am - 8:00pm
Tuesday 8:00am-8:00pm

77 Mill Street East, Acton
853-5534 or 1-800-635-7460

EUREKA

Central Vacuums

<p>Traditional Series!</p> <p>\$399 CV1801M 520 Air Watts</p>	<p>Quiet Kleen® Series!</p> <p>\$499 CV2104B 550 Air Watts</p>	<p>Traditional Series!</p> <p>\$439 CV3291D 520 Air Watts</p>	<p>Traditional Series!</p> <p>\$599 CV3391C 550 Air Watts</p>
---	--	---	---

Powerteams

\$189

The Boss 12 Amp Powerteam

- 180° spiral brushroll powerbrush with quick release & light
- Allergen Micron Filtration System
- Bag change indicator
- Cord rewind
- Tools on-board

\$339 Deluxe Electric Package

Includes the Eureka Deluxe electric power brush with chrome roller and our convenient EZ Change System. (lets you easily release the power brush for quick clean-ups), 30' 110/24V crush resistant hose with 3-way switch (turns power unit and power brush on and off) Progression Swivel Handle, reversible hose cuff, hose rack, chrome wands with cord management, extra chrome telescopic wand, 10" floor brush, and standard tool set (tool caddy, crevice tool, round dusting brush, upholstery tool with slide-on brush).

12 pcs total — Order # C2504240

\$399 Premium Electric Package

Includes the Eureka Premium electric power brush with our convenient EZ Change System (lets you easily release the power brush for quick clean-ups), long-life cogged belt and bright halogen headlight, 30' 110/24V crush resistant hose with 3-way switch (turns power unit and power brush on and off) Progression Swivel Handle, reversible hose cuff, hose rack, telescopic electric power brush wand, extra chrome telescopic wand, premium 12" floor brush, soft touch upholstery tool with built-in brush, soft touch oval dusting brush, crevice tool and tool caddy.

10 pcs total — Order # C2504280

Warranty

- Lifetime Limited warranty
- 7 Years Limited Motor and Electrical Components warranty
- 3 Year Limited Warranty on Accessories
- 90 Day Money Back Guarantee

See Dealer for details

make **EUREKA** your choice!

**Halton Hills
FURNITURE
& APPLIANCES**

**2 Main St. North
Acton, Ontario
519-853-4299**