



ACTON OPTICAL HONOURED: Acton Optical and its owner Nancy Wilkes, right, were selected as the first 2007 Business of the Month by Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce, whose representative Herma Buchanan, left, made the presentation at the store at 8 Main St. N. on Wednesday morning of this week.

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James Gordon musical starts museum fundraising

The Halton Museum Foundation is kicking off its 2007 fundraising campaign with a special presentation of James Gordon's musical, "Hardscrabble Road," at the John Elliott Theatre in Georgetown on Saturday, January 20.

Gordon, a native of Rockwood, now living in Guelph, has made a name for himself with songs and musicals describing the lives of ordinary people.

"Hardscrabble Road" is described as a gritty, thought-provoking tale that takes the audience on a journey to the back streets of a Canadian inner city where a group of homeless people sing of their plight. Gordon's most ambitious work to date with 24 all-new songs, the musical uses sharp satire,

humour and a wide range of music styles to convey the message of how our current global situation can have a personal impact on each and everyone.

Gordon shares the lead vocals with a "who's who" of the area's music scene, including Ken Browne, Nonie Crete, Sandy Horne, Amy Nodwell and Ryan Schneider. These performers are backed-up by instrumentalists Lois Cherry, Marion Linton, Even Gordon and Randall Coryell.

In the spirit of this presentation, the Halton Museum Foundation will be accepting donations of non-perishable food items and/or monetary donations in support of the Georgetown Daily Bread Food Bank. Tickets for this event are Adults \$23 and Youth/Seniors \$20.

Council sworn in December 6

Members of Halton Regional Council were sworn in for the 2006-2010 term of office at an inaugural ceremony at the Regional Centre in Oakville on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

The Honourable Mr. Justice Michael Quigley presided over the Declarations of Office. The invocation was delivered by Archbishop John Bothwell and representatives of Halton's interfaith community including representatives from the Halton Islamic Association, Metis Women's Circle and Aboriginal Community, Al-Falah Islamic Centre, Halton Sikh Cultural Association, Shaarei-Beth El Congregation, and Vaishnu Devi Hindu Temple of Oakville.

In his inaugural address, Regional Chairman Gary Carr congratulated the mayors and regional councillors on their election, and commented on the importance of listening to and respecting each other's opinions. Chairman Carr also touched on themes of Halton's growth, the Energy from Waste business case and Ontario Municipal Board reform. He emphasized that public consultation is key to ensuring the best outcomes for Halton and its residents.

The 2006-2010 Council for Halton Region is comprised of the following:

Regional Chairman: Gary Carr

Burlington: Cam Jackson (Mayor), Rick Craven (Ward 1), Peter Thoem (Ward 2), John Taylor (Ward 3), Jack Dennison (Ward 4), Rick Goldring (Ward 5), and Carol D'Amelio (Ward 6).

Halton Hills: Rick Bonnette (Mayor), Clark Somerville (Wards 1 & 2), and Jane Fogal (Wards 3 & 4).

Milton: Gord Krantz (Mayor) Barry Lee (Wards 1 & 3), and Colin Best (Wards 2 & 4).

Oakville: Rob Burton (Mayor), Alan Johnston (Ward 1), Fred Oliver (Ward 2), Keith Bird (Ward 3), Allan Elgar (Ward 4), Jeff Knoll (Ward 5), and Tom Adams (Ward 6).

VOX POP

Some stores had their Christmas displays up before the Hallowe'en stuff was put away – was there too much hype and commercialism for you this Christmas – did you get the "Christmas spirit?"



Dave Coulson, Acton
 "I didn't really notice the Christmas commercial hype. I think that the lack of snow didn't help, but I went to Ottawa and there was snow there, so it was more like Christmas."



Laura Oulton, Acton
 "Christmas was over really fast, but we did get the Christmas spirit – but without the snow, it was kind of sad and hard to get into the spirit."



Elaine Sylvester, Acton
 "I have grandchildren, so that makes a difference. I cooked for days and days and when we sat down at the table, the meal was over in 25 minutes and I did think "is it over that fast?"



Ken Kirkpatrick, Acton
 "With the weather, it was tough to get into the Christmas mood – but out shopping, I guess the spirit was alive. I got my (Christmas) lights up in a hurry, so my Christmas spirit was over after I got the lights up."

Back Facts

From the January, 2006 pages of The New Tanner. One year ago, Six voters in the federal riding of Wellington-Halton Hills cast their votes by special ballot on Christmas Day at the riding office in Acton.

They are not able to vote on January 23.

In other news:

- Impaired drivers caught in Halton police holiday spot checks were younger, and more drivers had been drinking, but were not impaired, resulting in an increase in 12-hour licence suspensions over 2005.

- The Acton Bearcats senior high school girls' volleyball team is undefeated in league play and continues to aim for OFFSA – the provincial championships.

- Sleigh bells weren't the only things ringing all over Acton this holiday season – the steady, at times hectic kaching of cash registers put big smiles on the faces of many merchants.

From the January 3, 2002 pages of The New Tanner
 Five years ago: Ethan Veenstra, born at 12:46 a.m., January 1, is the first New Year's baby. The seven-pound 15-ounce baby is welcomed by an older sister and parents Michelle and Jason Veenstra of Rockwood, formerly of Acton.

In other news:

- A fire of unknown origin razed a vacant house on Highway 7 just east of the Acton arena, causing \$75,000 damage early on New Year's Day.

- Provincially mandated increases and system upgrades translate into a \$33 increase on the average Acton water bill.

- Over 20 local residents attend a second meeting to try to launch plans for a museum to preserve Acton's natural history.

"waste-less-ness"



A BRIGHT IDEA

Not sure where to find out what's happening in your neighbourhood? Here's a bright idea!!

Check out The New Tanner for local coverage of Acton, Rockwood and surrounding area including editorials, grapevine, town digest, community corner, sports and seniors.

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