

Town sets up severe weather reserve fund

Not wanting to get caught short of funds again in the event of bad weather, the Town will establish a Severe Weather Event Reserve fund. It will initially be funded from \$50,000 that was allocated to the Public Works Equipment Reserve Fund and from \$55,000 that will be saved by hiring one, not two unionized full-time employees this year. The new reserve fund will be

Town Digest

capped at \$500,000.

Initially proposed as a Winter Control Reserve, the name was changed to encompass any and all bad weather at the suggestion of Regional Councillor Jane Fogal who said she completely agrees with the need for a reserve fund to deal with extraordinary weather events.

"We've been dealing

with snow for the last two years and it may be that the next problem is not snow, but could be a flood or and ice storm or some other kind of unexpected event..." Fogal said, adding the reserve would give the Town some flexibility to deal with unexpected events due to climate change.

Staff reported that the frequency and timing of storms in 2008 contributed to an increase of \$363,000 over the budget of \$1.2-million. As well, an over-budget amount of \$283,600 in 2007 was covered by cuts to other budgets and increased corporate revenues.

The snowfall between December 27 and 31 called for an extraordinary effort by Town staff to meet its clearing standards at a cost of \$208,000.

Health funding shortfall

For better healthcare closer to home, Halton Hills politicians need to push the province to move faster to a population-needs based healthcare funding formula.

Tariq Asmi, spokesman for the Growing Communities Healthcare Alliance that represents 20 hospitals in the GTA and Golden Horseshoe, told Town Council last Monday that local residents are being shortchanged when it comes to healthcare funding.

He said the Local Health Integration Network (LHIN) that Halton belongs to receives \$272 per resident less in funding for hospitals than the prov-



HAPPY 85th GORD: Pat and Gord McCutcheon reminisce Saturday as Gord officially celebrated his 85th birthday. The two Acton natives served in the armed forces during World War 2 and many friends and acquaintances as well as family were there to help celebrate Gord's birthday in the Acton Legion lounge. "It was like Old Home Week," said one visitor. - Ted Tyler photo

O'Leary says...

Continued from Page 7
into his face. The cup remained intact until he threw it out of his hand but all the water had flown out into his face due to the build up of energy.

His whole face is blistered and he as first and second degree burns to his face, which may leave scarring. He also may have lost partial sight in his left eye.

While at the hospital, the doctor who was attending to him stated that this is a fairly common occurrence and water (alone) should never be heated in a microwave oven. IF water is heated in this manner, something should be placed in the cup to diffuse the energy such as: a wooden stir stick, tea bag, etc. It is however a much safer choice to boil the water in a tea kettle.

The manufacturer's response:

Thanks for contacting us. I will be happy to assist you.

The e-mail that you received is correct. Micro-

waved water and other liquids do not always bubble when they reach the boiling point. They can actually get super heated and not bubble at all.

The superheated liquid will bubble up out of the cup when it is moved or when something like a spoon or tea bag is put into it.

To prevent this from happening and causing injury, do not heat any liquid for more than two minutes per cup.

After heating, let the cup stand in the microwave for thirty seconds before moving it or adding anything into it.

If you pass this on, you could very well save someone from a lot of pain and suffering.

FULL DISCLOSURE: In case any of these look familiar, I have to admit that friends sent them to me on the internet. I thought I would pass them along.

What can I tell you. It's a slow news week.

Treatment for:

- Fibromyalgia
- Chronic Pain
- Stress
- Headaches

...and much more.

Naomi Bedell Registered Massage Therapy

65 Mill St. E.,
Acton, ON
519-853-8557

Deanna Wilson

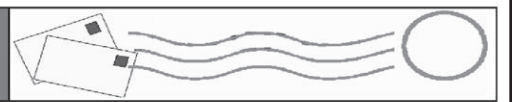
BSc. DCh.
Chiroprapist
Foot Specialist

519-853-8557

65 Mill St. E.
Acton, ON
L7J 1H4

- Foot/Nail Care
- Diabetic Footcare
- Custom Orthotics
- Home visits

Letters



To the editor

In Halton 170,000 kgs or 374,000 lbs of HFSA are added to Halton's water supply every year. This is over 1,000 kbs a day of this hazardous waste.

Fluoridation chemicals are classified as a Hazardous Waste by the US EPA and Environment Canada. As such they may not be put directly into our lakes, rivers, and oceans. They contain between 20 to 30% hydro-fluorosilicic acid (inorganic fluoride), trace amounts of arsenic, lead, mercury, radionuclides and other heavy metals + 70-80% of unidentified solution. (AWWA B703-06) The wide range of contaminants demonstrates that this product does not follow Best

Manufacturing Practices (US Congressional Hearings 1999-2000)

The known constituents of this hazardous waste are all considered to be toxic substances. Toxic substances are toxic, persistent, bioaccumulative, and anthropogenic. They are listed under the 1989 First Priority Substances lists in Canada. They are proposed for virtual elimination under the Canadian Environmental Protection Act (CEPA 1999, 2006 update), the 1997 Binational Toxic Strategy and the 1978 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

How much are we putting into our drinking water/source water/year in Ontario? How about some comments, Dr. Nosal?

John Shadbolt

practical average, or \$738 per resident compared to \$1,009 per resident in Ontario.

In high-growth areas where the funding gap continues to grow Asmi said that means people are less likely to get care close to home, have to travel out of the community to get support, wait longer for care with less co-ordina-

tion of care.

He said the local LHIN is also the lowest funded in Ontario for homecare services, community mental health services and the third lowest funded for addiction treatment funding.

"With a common voice and common cause you can make changes," Asmi said, adding that the province has agreed to develop a health based allocation model of funding which takes population into

account, but not until 2010-2011.

Council unanimously endorsed a Notice of Motion from Regional/Acton Councillor Clark Somerville for Queen's Park to move quickly on its promise to use the health based allocation model of funding with \$100-million commitment for hospital growth funding, and on social services and health care growth plans to complement the province's Places to Grow plan..

Splash pad update

More than 90 people responded to the Town's request for comments concerning plans for a splash pad in Prospect Park following a public meeting attended by approximately 40 people last month.

Although the preliminary concept diagram proposes replacing the existing wading pool with a new splash pad, that decision has not been made by Council.

The preliminary concept calls for the new 425-square-metre facility with a recirculating water system to be built in the area of the existing wading pool with the track narrowed to form an entry promenade.

The public had until February 27 to comment on the plans. Staff is reviewing the submissions and will report to Council at the April 6 meeting.



Is Your Family Struggling in These Tough Economic Times?

The Acton Presbyterian Church & Canadian Art Studio are sponsoring a:

March Break Artistic Creations Program!

Open to children between the ages of 8-14 years.

MARCH 16 - 20 • 1pm - 3:30pm

To Register Contact:

Knox Presbyterian Church
519-853-2360 or fax 519-853-5494
Weekends/After Hours 519-853-0699
Please R.S.V.P. by Sat., March 14

