

Celebrating a year in tire business



CHANGE OVER TIME: Mark Solda, owner of Acton Tire Stop is busy now changing winter tires to their warm weater counterparts. - Marie Shadbolt Photo

By Frances Niblock

It has been a busy and productive year at the Acton Tire Shop where owner Mark Solda is celebrating his first anniversary in business.

Solda opened his tire shop on Highway 25 south of Acton a year ago after working in a tire shop in Milton for 20 years. When his boss retired, Solda thought that it was time to strike out on his own and decided Acton was the right place to open a business.

"We've lived north of town for 10 years and I wanted to be part of this business community," Solda said on Friday, adding business at his one-man shop in the first year has been "pretty good."

Solda said the only thing he doesn't like about the job is missing phone calls from customers who include his former clients from Milton and people from Georgetown, Rockwood and Guelph.

A shortage of tires from distributors this past winter meant he had to turn away a few customers, and for next winter he plans to order twice as many snow tires as he did this winter.

Solda deals in both new and used tires and offers a

30-day warranty for all used tires, although he usually replaces any defective used tire out of good will. Solda has used tires on his own vehicle, but said he put new tires on his wife's vehicle before they headed to Florida.

Solda supports several community initiatives including sponsoring his son's Novice House League hockey team and the hot lunch program at St. Joseph Catholic School.

"I'm too far out of town to be included in the Acton BIA (Business Improvement Area) but still want to support the town that has been good to us," he said, add-

ing his business philosophy stresses good price, quality and service.

"If I can save somebody a nickel, I will. And, I also realize that the last thing people want to do is hang around a tire shop so I try to get them in and out as quickly as possible," Solda said.

He said the latest thing in the tire and wheel business is cars that now come equipped with a pressure monitoring system that lets them know when a tire is low on air. Instead of having a 25-cent rubberized valve stem on each tire, many newer cars

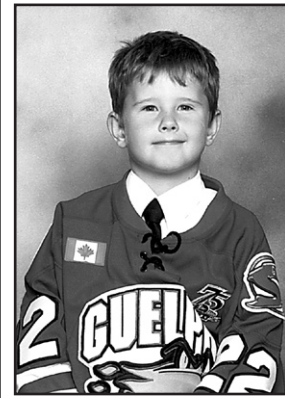
now have transistorized sender worth \$150 on each wheel, meaning he has to be much more careful when changing the tires.

"That's kind of a new thing that we have to be cautious of when we're changing tires, but not just us. It's everyone in the industry," he said, adding the sensors will probably be on all cars by 2011.

To celebrate his first year in business Solda is offering a \$10 per tire snow tire change-over special that includes balancing each tire and installing new valve stems.

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Due to the Good Friday holiday on April 10, Friday's waste collection will take place on Saturday, April 11.

Easter Monday does **not** delay waste collection the week of April 13.

Please place your waste at the curb by 7 a.m. on your scheduled collection day.

Please check your 2009 Waste Management Guide and Collection Calendar for your collection area details, or visit www.halton.ca/waste to use our "Search by Address" tool.

Halton Waste Management Site will be closed Friday, April 10, 2009

Regular Operating Hours

Open Monday to Saturday

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Thursday, April 23, 2009

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

**Milton Community Resource Centre
410 Bronte Street South, Milton**

For more information contact:
The Halton Resource Connection
905-875-4600

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