

EDITORIAL

with Hartley Coles

Place to call home

Christopher Hume, the Toronto Star's writer and critic on architecture and civic beauty selected Acton's Lake Ave. as one of the 10 best streets to live on outside of Toronto.

Hume went out of the designated 905 area to pick Lake Ave. fourth in a list which also includes nearby Martin St. in Milton and Caledon Mountain Drive in Belfountain as his favourites.

Hume wrote: "I know this is 519 territory but it's so nice I had to include it (Lake Ave.). A dead end street that runs along the edge of Fairy Lake, it is an out-of-the-way kind of place that feels like a street where real people live. Best of all, there's a variety of housing styles ranging across the 19th and 20th centuries."

Lake Ave. and its neighbour, Park Ave. have long been recognized in Acton as two of the prettiest streets in town, but this is probably the first time a large circulation, daily newspaper has appreciated the area's beauty. The fact Fairy Lake runs along the south end of the street and adjoining Prospect Park adds to its appeal.

The late Max MacSween, a master gardener, used to call Acton the "jewel" of Halton Hills with its natural beauty around Fairy Lake the setting for tree lined streets and its variety of housing styles dating back to the 19th century.

The co-author of the book, Acton's Early Days, H.P. Moore, could recall when the shores of Fairy Lake were thickly wooded except where it touched the village. Cedar, hemlock and hardwood were predominant. Stumps still visible in the lake are mute evidence of their existence.

Acton's Early Days says that in the subdivision of the Adams farms, when Acton was largely surveyed into village lots, the peninsula jutting out into the lake, westward from the section of lots on Main St. was secured by Ransom Adams, a nephew of the founding Adams brothers. The property contained 14 acres, part of which now comprises Lake Ave., the rest Prospect Park.

The layout of Lake Ave. and the park shows that back in the 19th century they had "an eye" for both form and beauty which Christopher Hume captured in his brief description of the avenue by the lake.

\$1.2 billion boost for Ontario affordable housing

A new \$1.2-billion Federal and Provincial joint investment to build new and renovate existing affordable housing will help create jobs, strengthen the economy, and improve the quality of life for residents of Ontario.

Monday's announcement includes federal funding of \$535-million over two years under Canada's Economic Action Plan as part of a one-time investment of more than \$2-billion to build new and renovate existing social housing in Canada.

The province will also contribute \$535-million for these initiatives, over the next two years. These investments build upon the \$1.9-billion commitment for housing and homelessness programs announced by Ottawa in September 2008, which extended the Affordable Housing Initiative and the renovation programs for low-income households for two years.

Overall, the federal contribution from these investments is \$622-million, while the province is contributing a further \$622 million for the combined investment of more than \$1.2 billion.



LOVELY LAKE AVENUE: Acton's picturesque Lake Avenue, which runs along the shore of Fairy Lake was recently named as one of the 10 best streets in the GTA by Christopher Hume of the Toronto Star. The late Max MacSween, a master gardener, called Acton the "jewel" of Halton Hills. A stroll down Lake Avenue will make the observer see why.

When does canned pop expire?

I never thought I would say this but I have the same issue with my father and my father-in-law and it is driving me crazy.

It started a couple years back when I was with my folks and decided to have one of their diet pops. I've written about it before but, the long and short of it is as I started to drink, I noticed it had an "off" taste. It wasn't "flat." It was just kind of funky, so, I poured it into a glass.

Then like a magic trick, I watched as the bottom of the glass became clear and the top half coloured like cola. When I showed my dad he just said I need to shake the can up a bit. "It is just separated, that's all," he explained.

I looked it over for an expiry date and discovered the pop was long past its best-before date. I told him, and it took a while, but he finally agreed the expired pop was probably "best before."

Then a little bit ago, I was at the Dude's work and took a can of pop from his refrigerator. With one gulp, I knew I faced the same problem. Again



By
Angela Tyler

I turned to the bottom of the pop can to find the best before date.

I had this feeling that Dude Sr. had put the pop in the fridge so I called him up to tell him about my findings. "Did you happen to put that pop in the fridge at work?" I asked. He has a tendency to be well stocked at home with canned beverages. It was the same problem as my dad's. Both buy pop when it's on sale and buy too much for them to drink. It happened exactly as I thought.

"Time to get rid of it...it's bad," I told him. "It's not expired," he insisted, "I just had one and it doesn't expire for months." We were about to butt heads. He was getting agitated with me telling him he had bad pop. "So you're telling me the whole case of pop is fine, but somehow Pepsi snuck in one pop that expired in 2007 just because?" He was adamant and

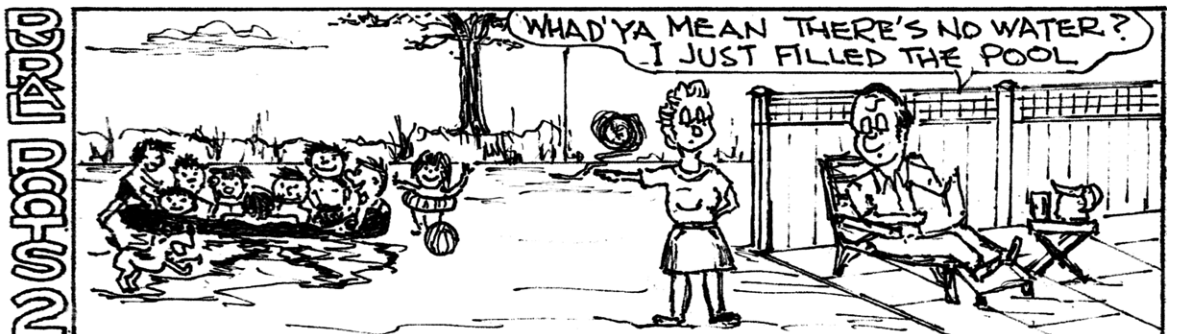
I was too. They say you have to pick your battles and this didn't need to be picked.

A few days after that I returned to the scene and intentionally took a pop then confronted him. "Look!" I persisted while pointing to the bottom of the can. "It's expired!" He looked and had pretty much the same original response as my dad. "It's fine...it's just flat," he insisted.

"Listen..." I started off... "They don't put an expiry just because. They put it there for a reason." He agreed finally, but he wasn't exactly racing to the fridge to purge the expired pop.

I'm not really sure what it is with fathers over buying food and drink. Why does my father in-law overbuy on pop? Why did my dad buy a case of Easy Mac and Cheese when he doesn't even eat Kraft Dinner?

In the end I learned two things. When they reach a certain age, fathers buy things and may buy too much of some things, but, it's their choice. And the second thing is, next time I want a pop, I'm going to the store.



THE NEW TANNER
PUBLISHING LTD.

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Distributed to every home in Acton and area,
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