

Town honours athletes and an actress

By Frances Niblock

A World-calibre Masters soccer player and a budding actress, both from Acton, were among the recipients of Municipal Awards at a ceremony on Monday in the council chambers in Georgetown.

The long-standing awards provide Halton Hills with an opportunity to recognize individuals and groups whose triumphs on the local, provincial, national and international stage, bring honour to the town.

Playing high level soccer is a stress buster for Acton's Christina Carere, who earned a podium finish at the World Masters Games in Sydney, Australia, this fall, playing for the Oakville Fury, an over-40 team of players from Ontario.

Competing against 31 of the best Masters players in the world, Carere, a centre defensive stopper, played six games in six days and made it into the quarter-finals seeded first.

At the Games, the Fury had a decisive 2-0 win in game seven, and in the semi-final they lost 2-1 in the last 30 seconds of the game moving them into the Bronze final the next day, which they lost 3-2 on penalty kicks.

Carere now plays for the four-team Acton Women's League and a co-ed team. She went into the games thinking it was a once in a lifetime opportunity, but since has received two invitations to the next World Games in Italy in 2013.

Acton's Carly Livingston, 12, is an award-winning confident actress/model who



won the Best Actress Award in the Young Cuts Film Festival for her lead role as Autumn in a short film called Scarecrow where she played a girl dying of leukemia. She has appeared in two music videos, appeared on television and many print ads. She has since also appeared in a documentary, on television and in many print ads as a model. She also appeared in Camp Rock 2 starring the Jonas Brothers.

Livingston won several awards at the Canadian Model and Talent Convention, which had over 500 contestants of all ages. She was awarded the Grand Over-

all Child Actor Award, first place for Monologue and TV Commercial and second runner-up for singing.

Livingston, a Grade 7 student at McKenzie-Smith Bennett School, began acting with the Georgetown Youth Theatre Group. She also studies singing with Rockwood music teacher Debbie Tilson and recently placed third in the Guelph Kiwanis Festival.

Other Municipal Award recipients include:

- The Stewarttown Middle School Stingers who won the 2009 Provincial Cup of Volleyball.
- Gary Klutt and Ryan

Klutt who are the 2009 Senior National and Junior National Karting champions.

- Camilla Paluch, a member of Team Ontario which won Gold at the 2009 Basketball Canada Championships.

- Four members of the Butler Fearon O'Connor School of Irish dancing who received awards at the 2009 Canadian Irish Dance Championships, including Nicolas Andison - Gold; Claire Gormley - Gold; Patrick Andison - Bronze and Rae Giguere - fifth place.

- Wayne MacDonald, a paraplegic who was a Bronze medallist at the

2009 World Canoe/Kayak Championships.

Before inviting everyone to a reception after the ceremony, Mayor Rick Bonnette thanked the recipients, their coaches, teachers and parents, for their hard work and dedication.

"This evening has been a wonderful opportunity to recognize the award recipients and their families that support the many arts, dance and sport opportunities in Halton Hills. You should be extremely proud of your accomplishments and your dedication to achieving excellence," Bonnette said.

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