

Splish splash in Prospect Park

Thinking about summer yet? Well, the Town certainly was as it broke ground on Monday in preparation for a new splash pad to be constructed in Prospect Park.

"Council was pleased to support this capital project as it offers great play value for all members of the family," said Mayor Rick Bonnette. "We need only look at the success of the Town's other splash pad facilities at Gellert and Dominion Gardens Park!"

"The people of Acton had expressed the need for a Splash Pad and it was confirmed through the Town's Recreation and Parks Stra-

tegic Action Plan," said Regional Councillor Clark Somerville, a member of the Strategic Plan Steering Committee,

The total project budget is \$540,000 with \$100,000 to be raised through donations and sponsorships. The Town is pleased to announce its first contributor to this exciting project is the Geng Family who own and operate Superior Glove in Acton. "Given our deep connection with Acton and long history in town, we were looking at a way that we could give back to the community," said Tony Geng speaking on behalf of the Geng Family and Superior

Glove. The notion of contributing to the splash pad program at Prospect Park struck us as being a very special project that would bring families together in this great park setting."

The amount of the Geng Family contribution has not been finalized at this time.

With over thirteen ground water elements the variety of jets will provide play for a range of ages in a fish-themed splash pad. The central elements of a leaping fish and fishing pole will be a fantastic addition to the Prospect Park setting on Fairy Lake. The splash pad is schedule to open in July.



SPLISH SPLASH IN PROSPECT PARK: It was fitting to have the official groundbreaking ceremony for the new splash pad in Prospect Park on the warmest day of winter this year. Attending the ceremony were (left to right) Steve Need of Marshall Finamore Construction, Councillor Jon Hurst, Councillor Clark Somerville, Joe Geng of Superior Glove, Councillor Mike O'Leary, Mayor Rick Bonnette, Tony Geng of Superior Glove, and Paul Finamore of Marshall Finamore Construction. The new splash pad is scheduled to be opened sometime in July. — Ken Baker photo

It's tax time

Until the end of March, the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) is issuing weekly tax tips with information geared towards specific groups that are most affected by new and existing credits, deductions, and benefits in the 2009 tax-filing season. This tax tip focuses on seniors.

There are credits, benefits, and deductions to which you may be entitled. Some of these are:

- **Age amount:** If you were 65 years old or older on December 31, 2009, and your net income was less than \$75,032, you may be able to claim this non-refundable tax credit.

- **Pension income amount:** If you reported eligible pension, superannuation, or annuity payments on your return, you may be able to claim this non-refundable tax credit.

- **Pension income splitting:** If you and your spouse or common-law partner split your pension income by completing Form T1032, Joint Election to Split Pension Income, you (the pensioner) can claim a deduction for the elected split-pension amount.

- **Registered retirement savings plan (RRSP):** You may be able to deduct your RRSP contributions.

- **Medical expenses:** You may be able to claim a non-refundable tax credit based on the cost of medical expenses for any 12-month period ending in 2009.

- **Goods and services tax / harmonized sales tax (GST/HST) credit:** Low- and

modest-income individuals and families may apply for this quarterly payment by completing the application on the first page of their 2009 income tax and benefit return.

- **Disability amount:** If you had a severe and prolonged impairment in physical or mental functions in 2009 and meet certain conditions, you may be able to claim this non-refundable tax credit.

- **Public transit tax credit:** If you use public transit and have bought certain transit passes or electronic payment cards, you may be able to claim this non-refundable tax credit.

- **Home Renovation Tax Credit:** If you are a homeowner, you may be able to claim a non-refundable tax credit of up to \$1,350, based on eligible expenses incurred for work performed or goods acquired after January 27, 2009, and before February 1, 2010, in respect of a renovation or alteration to an eligible dwelling. The credit applies to expenses of more than \$1,000, but not more than \$10,000.

In addition to these, other credits, deductions, and benefits may be available to you. For more information, go to www.cra.gc.ca/seniors.

- **Pay tax by instalments** If you receive income that has no tax withheld or does not have enough tax withheld for more than one year, you may have to pay tax by instalments. This can happen if you re-

ceive rental, investment, or self-employment income, certain pension payments, or income from more than one job. For more information, go to www.cra.gc.ca/instalments.

- **Take advantage of the CRA's electronic services**

Use electronic services such as NETFILE and TELEFILE, My Account, My Payment, and direct deposit to file your return, manage your tax affairs online, make online payments, and get your refund and benefits deposited into your bank account, respectively. For more information, go to www.cra.gc.ca/eservices.

- **Get help filing your return**

If you qualify for the Community Volunteer Income Tax Program and have a simple tax situation, a trained volunteer will help you complete your 2009 income tax and benefit return. For more information, go to www.cra.gc.ca/volunteer or call 1-800-959-8281.

The door-to-door canvass brings in approximately \$35,000 annually. An

April is Cancer Month

By Frances Niblock

Like a well-oiled machine, Canadian Cancer Society volunteers are preparing for Cancer Month in Acton with a door-to-door canvas, special events and daffodil sales to raise money for cancer research.

Many of the Acton volunteers are campaign veterans, and many are cancer survivors – living proof that cancer can be beaten.

Campaign officials are currently looking for canvassers – people who are enthusiastic, optimistic, somewhat organized and committed to the cause of raising money to fight cancer.

The job takes approximately four hours, and routes of 15 to 20 houses can be canvassed any time during April. Approximately 200 canvassers are needed, and Acton Branch president Cathy Gerrow said routes are available, including in the subdivision south of Sobey's.

The door-to-door canvass brings in approximately \$35,000 annually. An

annual dance generates approximately \$4,500, while the Acton Branch receives \$10,000 annually from memoriams and the Paul Murr Golf Tournament raises approximately \$50,000 annually for the Cancer Society.

Gerrow's favourite campaign job is to organize the Daffodil sales for the last weekend in March.

"It's a fun thing to do – daffodils are so symbolic, and some people get quite emotional when they buy them – to me, it feels good (to sell them) – you're out there raising money and its making a difference," Gerrow said on Friday.

She orders 22 boxes with 50 bunches of daffodils in each box from a grower in British Columbia and will sell them on March 25, 26 and 27, raising approximately \$7,000.

Each year, grateful Acton Branch officials treat their volunteers to a campaign kickoff dinner. It is March 24 at 6 p.m. at Knox Presbyterian Church.

The Wellington Unit of the Canadian Cancer Society administers all proceeds from Acton Cancer Month activities.

For more information or to volunteer call Cathy at 519-853-1424.

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