

EDITORIAL

with Frances Niblock

Information explosion

How much information is too much information when it comes to public safety? Sometimes, there is a very fine line, as witnessed by a recent press release from the Halton Hills Fire Department about "bottle bombs" – homemade explosive devices that have been set off on front lawns and in mailboxes in the United States and recently, in Ontario.

Fire officials said while none of these devices has exploded in Halton Hills, "there is the possibility that they could," and they urge residents to think safely and not touch any suspicious bottles. Rural mailbox owners are advised to carefully check their mailboxes before getting their mail and call 911 if anything is out of order.

The media advisory about the so-called Works Bombs includes a detailed description of how to make one, capable of blowing off fingers and causing severe chemical burns.

Although instructions for making bombs can be found online, perhaps local fire safety officials should not be giving people a primer on the ingredients and method of making the Works Bombs.

Successful market

What a great sight it was to see the south end of Willow Street jammed with happy shoppers, local merchants and others enjoying a street fair atmosphere at the inaugural Acton Farmers' Market last Thursday.

People liked the Thursday afternoon time slot, the wide variety of fresh veggies, fruit and frozen meat, and all but one liked the handmade goods that were for sale by local artisans.

Congratulations to the organizers for their months of hard work to make the Farmer's Market a reality.

Looking Back



Ten Years Ago

- The Alice Street headquarters of Halton Hills Hydro could be sold as the public utility is restructured to become a Town-owned corporation.
- Veteran Acton Councillor Norm Elliott said it was impossible to balance work and politics and announced he will not seek re-election in the next municipal vote.
- All that stands in the way of a new fair building in Prospect Park is \$100,000 – money the Acton Agricultural Society is short. It already has \$215,000 in the kitty and is promised \$20,000 from the Town.

Five Years Ago

- Acton area residents are invited to a Town meeting to discuss plans for three new parks in Acton – on Wallace Street, on Tanners Drive North and on Rennie Street South.
- Local politicians are pleased to learn that the federal government will share gas tax revenues with them – the Town will receive \$3.9-million over five years and Halton Region will receive \$30.4-million.
- Acton honoured its veterans with a "Year of the Veteran" parade, including colour parties from the Acton Legion and seven other area Legions.



JAILBIRDS' BAIL: Over \$4,000 in "bail money" was donated to help free 16 local politicians and business owner/managers who were put behind bars on Friday as part of the Crime Stoppers Jail-a-Thon at the Georgetown mall. 'Judge' Tom Suddaby (left) threw the book at Mayor Rick Bonnette (right) who was cuffed by Sergeant Gary Gold and jailed for being a chocoholic. Part of Bonnette's fine was paid by Dave Merchant (second from right). – Frances Niblock photo

Little J doing just swimmingly

It's the end of June, and that means one thing...school will soon be finished and graduation is here.

In the past, June for me was the end of the year. As work follows the school year, I see June as the end, not December. It has always been bitter sweet though. The end of the year and the start of summer, yet on the same note, it was only a matter of weeks until it all started again.

This year however, there is nothing bitter. It is all sweet. Every day is a new beginning and a new adventure with Little J, and being that it is June, she has had her first two graduations and her first report card all at the ripe old age of seven months.

This spring, Little J enrolled in her first classes, Kindermusik and swim lessons. Kindermusik was perfect for her. She is a social butterfly who loves music. In her class she was able to flirt with the boys, which really brings out an entirely different personality, and listened intently to her teacher, Mrs. Beverly's, beautiful voice. Unfortunately, Little J now knows that Mommy



By **Angela Tyler**

can't sing worth beans after hearing Mrs. Beverly.

Swim lessons were a little more adventurous. I am pretty sure all of the Dude's family and mine were a little concerned when I told them we had enrolled her, because at that time, she was only approaching four months. However, I explained my thinking and as both sets of grandparents have swimming pools, she needed to know how not to sink.

Every Sunday, Little J, donning her orange tank-ini, would arrive at the Acton Pool just as her mother and father had years earlier. She even had her own cheering section. Her first class brought all her grandparents and one of her aunts, and each lesson thereafter she would have at least one person in attendance, but usually there was three or four of us watching, video-taping and taking pictures.

Swim lessons started off with 30 minutes of tears. I was first up in the pool with her and it broke my heart for her to cry. I tried to justify the tears but a baby tub really doesn't count as full immersion.

Thereafter, the Dude took over the swimming reigns, and before I knew it Little J was not crying and actually enjoying her dad dunk her, even though the first dunk had her entire cheering section gob smacked. Before we knew it, she was dunking, floating on her back, wearing a life jacket, and with help of dad, jumping from the side. The girl who started off with tears ended these swimming sessions smiling ear-to-ear and ready for the next set of lessons.

So, it's the end of June. Life is speeding by some days. Little J now says Mom and uh-oh, has three teeth, has had her first teacher Mrs. Beverly, her first swim instructor Erica, and her first report card from swim class. And, she has homework. She did well in swimming, however she has to practice blowing bubbles in the water this summer.



THE NEW TANNER
PUBLISHING LTD.

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Distributed to every home in Acton and area, as well as adjoining communities.

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