

EDITORIAL

with Frances Niblock

School safety

Already, days before school begins, roads near Acton schools are busier as teachers prep their classes and students registered at the High School.

It's a time when safety needs to be underscored as kids, excited about seeing their friends and starting a new school year, may not pay as much attention to their safety as they should.

Police forces urge caution for motorists in and around schools – they will step up enforcement over the coming weeks to ensure that drivers slow down, obey traffic rules and are careful to look out for students who have had a summer of fun and may need some rule re-enforcement.

Reminders for Motorists:

- Slow down. Observe the speed limit in school zones.
- Be especially careful when driving around school zones.

Always expect the unexpected.

• Be alert for youngsters walking to and from school as you back out of your driveway or leave your garage.

• Watch for children on bicycles, especially at intersections and driveways.

• Stop your car when you see lights flashing on a school bus. Don't start driving until the red lights stop flashing. Safety Tips for Pedestrians:

• Always walk on the sidewalk – if there's no sidewalk and you have to walk in the road, always walk FACING traffic.

• Cross only at corners or marked crosswalks.

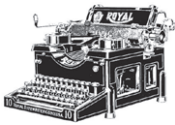
• Stop at the curb, or the edge of the road.

• Walk in groups, there is safety in numbers.

• Stop and look left, then right, then left again, before you step into the street.

Slow down, pay attention and be safe.

Looking Back



Ten Years Ago

• The Acton library closes for almost two weeks as the Centennial building is repainted and new carpet is installed in a \$23,700 renovation.

• There will be a smooth start to the school year in Halton - elementary teachers have signed a deal with their union and secondary school teachers put their strike plans on hold as negotiations continue.

• A helicopter helped police find and eradicate 1,100 marijuana plants - with a street value of \$1-million - in rural Acton. No arrests were made in connection with the seizures of pot which was destroyed at a secure location.

Five Years Ago

• Acton teen Roy Sidhu, 16, died in single vehicle crash in Cambridge. The Acton High student was killed when he was thrown from a car being driven by a friend when it hit a hydro pole.

• "Non autocratic" and "consultative" are the characteristics that helped Dennis Perlin earn the job as CAO of Halton Hills. Perlin was the former solicitor and CAO of Halton Region in the early 1980s.

• Construction of the new TD Canada Trust branch in Acton is on budget and on schedule, heading to the slated October opening.



CRIME STOPPERS APPRECIATION:

Angela Tyler (centre) of The New Tanner proudly accepted a plaque in appreciation for media support from Halton Crime Stoppers past Chair Tom Suddaby (left), and Chair Cal Millar last Thursday. Halton Crime Stoppers was recently awarded the Marla Moon Award 2009 for excellence. – Ken Baker photo

Fall TV favourites

It's officially fall. I know this because the new television lineup is being plugged in every possible media form.

I used to really look forward to the new television seasons. Then, the season would go through until the end of the school year, unlike now where some of them end in the middle of the winter.

This year however, I have concerns over two shows in particular. The first is the remake of the classic television series Hawaii 5-0. This is just wrong in my books. I think television and movie makers should have learned by now that remakes are just not the same and never do well generally speaking. The only time I think they do well is when you appeal to an audience that wasn't around the first time the movie or tv show was aired. A friend recently saw the movie the *Last Exorcism* and stated "it sucked." Again, how can you try to even remotely re-do a classic such as the *Exorcist* with Linda Blair. There is no way that the head spinning vomiting possessed Blair could ever be re-done. I think the original Steve McGarrett with his line "Book 'em Danno" should never be re-said by an actor that wasn't even born let alone



By Angela Tyler

thought of when Steve made the phrase famous.

My next concern is *Dancing With the Stars*. I started watching it because my mom was hooked on it. I admit I fade in and out of watching it throughout the seasons, which I find funny to say, because it really isn't a season – it is just a dozen or so episodes, and some seasons, depending on who is dancing, I don't even watch.

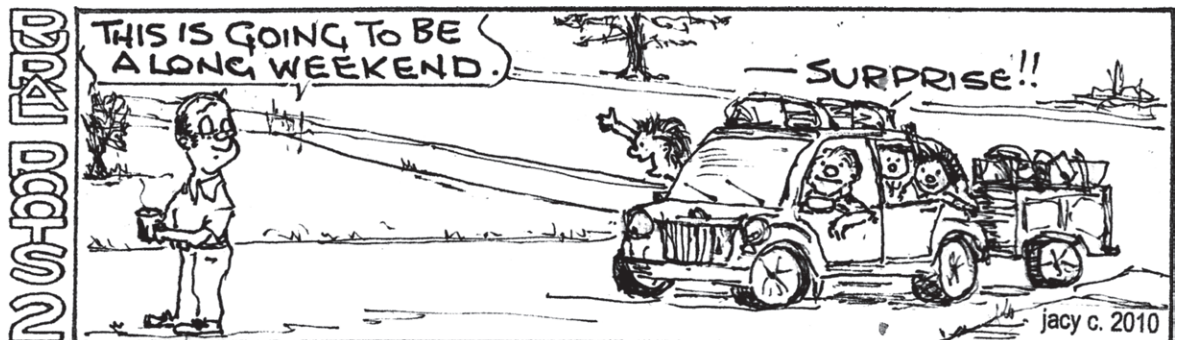
Last "season" I had some qualms. My biggest worry was Pamela Anderson, who really surprised me and I was hoping she would go further than she did in the competition. I don't really think it's fair that they bring in professional athletes or even trained dancers as the "stars." I want my stars to be only from television and the movies.

This year, I'm not sure what the producers were thinking of besides possible ratings when they announced this year's crew. Can someone explain how Bristol Palin became a "star"? Then there is one of the male "stars" from *Jersey Shore*. This

one completely boggles me because as far as I can tell from my few watchings of *Jersey Shore* it is a 'reality' show following around a group of young men and women living together on the Jersey Shore where there main goal in life, for the men, is ensuring to work out, maintain their fake tans and "score" with as many young women as possible as they go to bars and drink.

I am so glad though that the producers still somewhat remember what a "star" is. This year, as well they have Florence Henderson joining the star dancers. Now this woman is a star. I'm just hoping she doesn't disappoint like Buzz Aldren did. I thought old guys were supposed to know how to dance properly because that's what they did back then when they went out on a Saturday night ... go to dances and dance properly.

Unfortunately, Henderson is an older star and probably won't be good for ratings with the younger viewers because her biggest claim to fame, the *Brady Bunch* happened about 40 years ago, and the younger viewers probably only know of the *Brady Bunch* from that horrible remake of it as a B-rated movie.



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