

# EDITORIAL

with Frances Niblock

## Senseless carnage

It is ironic that a witness to a two-vehicle personal injury crash late Monday afternoon at 32 Side Road at the Fourth Line was only in the area because her usual route – Highway 7 – was still closed just east of Acton as police investigated and cleaned up after a fatal accident that occurred around 9 that morning.

Police said they may never know why the 60-year-old Georgetown driver killed in the morning crash crossed the centre line and slammed head-on into a transport truck, but several area residents blame speeders for most of the problems.

One man and at least one other neighbour, want traffic lights installed at the Fourth Line, and the speed limit reduced to 50-km/h from the Fourth Line to Acton. Both said speeding traffic makes it nerve wracking to pull out of their driveways onto the highway, and both have witnessed many close calls.

The stats are sobering. There have been three fatal traffic accidents in Halton Hills so far this year – alcohol played a role in at least one of the deaths. During the same time, there were 61 personal injury accidents – some involved more than one victim.

Slow down, pay attention, drive smart and as the safety campaign says “Arrive Alive.”



**GENEROUS CHEQUE:** The United Way of Halton Hills, and its member agency, STRIDE, are \$1,000 richer thanks to the generous donation of \$1,000 by the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. CIBC Acton branch manager Kathy Parker(right) presented a ceremonial cheque to United Way past-president Jim Lindsay and STRIDE executive director Anita Lloyd during the bank's recent customer appreciation day.

– Frances Niblock photo

## A year of firsts - here comes the second

All I can say is we did it! Yes, after one year and approximately 3000 diaper changes, the Dude and I survived our first year of parenthood. I suppose more importantly, Little J survived her first year of being our daughter.

This past Saturday, Little J turned one. It's hard to believe that an entire year went by. People said it would whiz by, and for the longest time I thought they were crazy, however, the last few months, it did just that; whiz by.

As I sat down one night, I started thinking of all the things this little girl has done and accomplished in one year. We are fortunate she is healthy, strong and full of energy. It's hard to realize that in this short of time she has even been on an airplane eight times and has as many stamps in her passport as some adults.

The past few months we've made some serious milestones that include acquiring almost 12 teeth including molars and a vocabulary that includes two syllable words and two words together that actually make sense.



By  
Angela Tyler

This coming Saturday will be her first official repeat. This Saturday will actually be her second Santa Claus parade. Along with this, we will be writing her first letter to Santa, which is something “mommy” has been really looking forward to.

I used to love writing my letter to Santa when I was little. With the arrival of the Eaton's Christmas Catalogue and your letter being mailed, you knew Christmas was just around the corner.

A few years ago, my sister, when going through some of my Grandmother's things, found a letter I wrote to Santa when I was little. For Christmas that year, she gave me a copy of it framed so I could always remember to believe in Santa Claus and part of what made Christmas magical for me as a child.

This is the actual text and spelling of my letter:

Dear Santa Clause,

I would want to thank you for the toys that I got last year.

How is every thing at the north pole? Did Roudolph fall out of bed again? Would you please bring me these toys. I would really like it.

1. Baby that away 2. Barbie fashion plaza 3. Ballarina Barbie 4. umbrella stroller 5. Bugs Bunny record player 6. pinball machine

Your's truly, Angela Tyler

Seriously, I have no idea about the Rudolph thing. I guess I was trying to small talk Santa and butter him up to get the toys, which for the record, I did not get the pinball machine. I do believe I got the Baby That Away and the stroller for it.

I'm not really sure what direction Little J is going to go with her letter to Santa, however, I do know we're going to double check the spelling of any reindeer names before we give it to the posties that help collect Santa mail at Saturday's parade.

## Looking Back



### Ten Years Ago

- Four candidates challenge Halton MP Julian Reed for his seat in the Federal election. Halton is a swing riding where voters mirror the national vote.

- The first blast of winter snow was not just a light dusting, but enough to make snowballs and enough to shovel. It didn't last as the mercury soared to a balmy 10 degrees.

- More than 13,000 Halton households spend over 30 per cent of the income on housing and are at risk of losing their housing because of unaffordability or inadequacy.

### Five Years Ago

- Quick, but thorough. Professional, but friendly. That's the book on Acton's new nurse practitioner, Roger Firsoff who is caring for patients at the Acton Medical Centre.

- Rockwood OPP asked Quebec police for to help in identifying the remains of a woman found in August at the Highway 7 rest stop, west of the village.

- The Acton YMCA child care centre officially marked its relocation to McKenzie-Smith Bennett School with an open house and reception.



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