

What readers think of us Today is Wednesday

Paper has many interesting topics

The Acton Free Press has many interesting topics which attract many people to reading it each week. I have gone through the paper and selected the parts which interest me the most and the most important parts I can find and written in brief what the section is talking about:

- To start off, the most important of all is the local news which counts in other towns of the district and of course "Acton."
- When somebody is charged for some reason I think it is very considerate of the Acton Free Press not to print the person's name.
- One thing I think is important is what is happening behind those closed doors where the council men sit and discuss the happenings and what's going to happen in the near future of Acton and our neighboring districts.
- The weather is another write-up in the Acton Free Press, not necessarily on what's going to happen tomorrow or on what's going to happen next week, but the results of the weather or storms (if any) which happened over the past week. The storm which we had not long ago was an important writeup in the Free Press.
- The Free Press usually has the results of the banquets or dances and money made to distribute for many causes or the winners to clubs which are organized, e.g. 400 Club.
- I like the report made by the O.F.P. which reports on the happenings through the week, again no names are mentioned unless an accident involves a dead person or other different cases.
- The sports page I find very interesting to read to see how much of a fight Acton and the other team put up to win. The sad part about reading this section is when a person gets hurt and had to be sent to the hospital or just to the doctor.
- Classified Advertising contains the Births, Marriages, Coming Marriages, Deaths, Cards of Thanks, For Sale, Wanted, and so on. The section tells about the title that starts it, e.g. Deaths - tells who died.
- Myself and people of Acton, I'm sure, enjoy the personals, Free Press Briefs, The Acton Council Briefs which also let you in on what's happening.
- As we move on we see News

Wednesday, Yes, today is Wednesday and you would most likely hear, as you walked through our town "I must get a Free Press, it comes out today."

If you are looking for "big town" excitement, believe me, you are not apt to find it in the weekly edition of our local newspaper, "The Acton Free Press". But after hearing it on Television and reading the dailies throughout the week, it is quite unlikely that this is your intention.

However, if you want to know of local happenings and the weekend specials, then you will be well satisfied with the "local sheet."

I enjoy reading of the town happenings and the events of the surrounding area. I am happy to hear of new arrivals to friends and sorry to hear of tragedies. I don't wish to imply that this is a gossip sheet. The policy of our paper is never to print names of persons who have been listed on the Police Report. To some readers this may be frustrating but I believe it protects many

Dear Sirs:
In response to your request of what the Acton Free Press means to me. Well, to me it means opening the paper without hold print glaring at me, announcing the wars in Vietnam and all the other small wars over the globe.

This and so many distressing things that make thousands of people like myself panic in fear of it all some day reaching our districts. In the events such as these it makes one feel relaxed to open a paper such as the Free Press and find out there are other things like your Salt & Pepper, letter from Eden Mills, etc.

You make one feel that here's a paper that dedicates a lot to its own town and surrounding areas. I especially like the interest it shows in the education of our children. No event is too small to write about, whether it be a photo

of a child at play or working on a school project. Unlike a lot of people I myself have had a limited education so when I see this it makes me feel warm.

One can read about the local elections and the reports on bowling, etc. These are things of local interest. We are reminded often of the troubled world enough by other mediums such as T.V., radio, etc.

I realize that you can't hide from these facts and I'm not trying to but it sure is good to read a paper that doesn't scare the heck out of one.

These are my reasons for liking the Free Press.

Thank you, and don't ever change.

Yours truly,
Mrs. E.G. Landry,
21 Mill St.,
Acton, Ont.



Doesn't try to compete with dailies

Wednesday evenings are looked forward to with eagerness in our house. It is then that my husband picks up the Acton Free Press Weekly and we fight over the two sections. I want to read the amusing columns, local page, Wendy's recipes, and Hartley's editorial. Mac opens the wind ads first, then moves to the front page.

Why are we so interested in a small local paper that can't hope to compete with the massive Toronto papers or even the Guelph daily? That's just it - it doesn't try to compete. We can get daily world and national news through many media, but only through the weekly newspaper do we hear about our friends and see their printed pictures - sometimes even ourselves.

We can keep up on how well our municipal tax dollar is being spent. Is our police force doing its job? Were we wise to vote for so-and-so? A lot of people prefer to contribute to a local charity where they can see the results of their donation. The weekly advises its readers of these charities.

Not to mention the activities, clubs, sports and just nose news of all one's near and dear (or not so dear, as the case may be). It's fun to see the first spring lamb or a picture of a club associate falling off a horse.

However, the weekly does look farther afield as well, and does report provincial and national news for those whose only worldly contact is the local paper.

One of the most important jobs of the weekly is reporting agricultural news to help farmers schedule their work. The large daily has mainly an urban readership and has to cater to their needs. But most weeklies serve rural communities and serve them admirably.

The weekly has an important job in this large spreadout country. It gives the little fellow in the small town a chance to identify with, and feel part of, his own small chunk of this country.

It is Wednesday night again and I must finish this so that I can greet Mac bringing home the Acton Free Press Weekly and grab the second section first.

Jennifer Harr
Tinkersdale Stables,
R.R. 4, Rockwood.

Roadrunners

Claim hot dog championship

After ice-fishing near Dorset, nine members of the Roadrunners team are claiming the Ontario hot dog eating championship. They finished off 80 hot dogs in one sitting!

Ray Wood took the boys on the trip - Jim Hurley, "Beans" Bennett, Dave Galbraith, "Clutch" McCutcheon, Kevin Jordan, Bernie Taylor, Terry Holmes, Guy Payne and Barr Payne.

At camp They stayed at Bear Lake Camp operated by Murray Dean, a retired fire captain from the Toronto Fire Department. Another Acton couple, Mr. and Mrs. Klaus Schroeder of Elizabeth Dr., were also staying at the lodge.

The boys are members of the 'A' team of the Acton Roadrunners basketball team.

Missing pair The fishing was not too good in Livestock Lake so three of the boys and Cons. Wood decided to try another lake some distance away. Off they went with Jim Hurley driving the skidoo, Cons. Wood behind and then two boys on a sled behind. Riding through a small wood, Cons. Wood turned to speak to the two boys - to

realize they had fallen off at the last bend, some distance back! A fair amount of speckled trout was pulled through the ice, the largest 3 1/4 lbs.

The group left town early Sunday morning, March 21 and returned Tuesday night of last week.

Plebiscite runs into many snags Georgetown council's plans to have a liquor plebiscite are much like those of the Acton Chamber of Commerce—they keep running into snags!

Originally planned for the December elections it was found a different voting list was necessary. This year the vote was set for May but the town council found this was impossible.

It is hoped to use the census being taken by the Halton-Peel assessment department but this will not be ready until June.

Legislation forbids holding a vote in July or August.

September is the earliest date for a plebiscite but the assessment list will be accepted by the Liquor Control Board only if the assessment commissioner assures the list is up to date. Now council must find a way of updating the list.

Budgeted for the plebiscite is \$15,000.

Arthur A. JOHNSON DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY MILTON AND ACTON

See Professional Directory for Details

William A. Johnson, R.R. 2, Rockwood, Ont.

Avid reader of papers

An avid reader of newspapers I read some twenty local, national and international newspapers each week. Some of the reasons for my selecting the Acton Free Press as my favorite weekly, as you will see, are purely vain.

The first rough draft of my entry contained some two thousand words; this, with many omissions, is the concise version.

I frequently write letters to editors of papers I read, on subjects in which I have experience or have formed strong opinions. It is often galling to find a letter one has written, edited right out of context. I have written many letters to the Acton Free Press. Every letter has been printed, and printed in its entirety.

The Acton Free Press is a family newspaper in more ways than one. Its content is geared for family reading and it is a family-owned newspaper. We, in this area, are indeed lucky.

Today, when newspaper barons own and control huge blocks of newspapers, we still have an independent newspaper. Newspaper barons tell us that their editors are local people and have complete independence, but the editor who jeopardized his job or who left himself open to criticism from the top by extolling views contrary to those of the publisher would indeed be foolish.

Being a relatively small newspaper, the Acton Free Press travels on extremely thin ice. For instance to survive it must maintain or increase circulation. The more people who read it the more advertisers will want to advertise in it.

Often we read of a local person doing this or that and wonder why no name appeared in print, not realizing that the local person has relatives and friends who might be subscribers and subscriptions would be cancelled, and the delicate balance upset. Of course serious infractions of the law are fully reported.

The area in which I live is serviced by three weekly newspapers, two of which are owned by the same family.

I picked the Acton Free Press for several reasons. Here are two of them.

Last year in a dispute over the location of a horse barn and a

nearby home, the other paper editorialized against the barn owner. He didn't interview the owner of the barn. I did.

The Acton Free Press showed a picture of the house and barn but the editor left it at that. There I think, the joint publisher erred. He missed a golden opportunity to foster healthy competition between both publications. He should, in my opinion, have sent a reporter from the Free Press to interview the other party, or both parties.

Once I opened the Acton Free Press to find a letter and poem from my brother in the U.K., berating me for finding time to write to editors but not finding time to write "home". (I hadn't seen him for seventeen years and had lost touch with him.)

Eventually this letter, and my reply to the editor of the Acton Free Press turned up in Zambia, the end result being a letter from my sister whom I hadn't seen for twenty years, also berating me for not writing to her. We all correspond regularly now.

What don't I like about my favorite weekly newspaper? In my opinion much of today's unrest can be placed squarely on the shoulders of the media, and this includes the Acton Free Press.

Frequently we hear of scandals - political, industrial, financial, even medical. Commissions are set up and I mean "set up" to investigate these irregularities. Acting within set guide lines, these commissions seldom find any wrong doing, and those being investigated invariably emerge clean as the driven snow or at the most guilty of indiscretions.

Crusading editors would crucify the perpetrators of such goings on, in king-size print and on the front pages. The only editorials we see worth their salt appear on picket signs. The only protests are made by individuals driven to extremism by the complacency of the bureaucracy, and partisan press.

To conclude, I take a deep interest in local politics. Being a shift worker I cannot attend all local council meetings. These meetings receive excellent coverage in the Acton Free Press and keep me well informed.

Easter Parade of Values

Take Advantage of Our Pre-Easter Sale and SAVE! SAVE! SAVE!

KEEP IN STEP WITH THE CROWD WITH SHOES from SHAFI'S SHOE & DEPARTMENT STORE

Men's - Insulated - Vulcanized WORK BOOTS Leather Upper, Rubber Sole With Leather Lining Reg. \$24.99 Pr.	Men's - Good Year Welted Construction COWBOY BOOTS Asst'd Leather & Neatle Soles Reg. to \$13.99
Men's - Assorted Styles DRESS PANT BOOTS Reg. Up To \$18.99	NOW \$14.99
Men's - (Reg. to \$18.00) DRESS SHOES Ass't'd Styles & Colors	NOW \$5.00 And Up
Boys' & Girls' - Reg. to \$9.99 DRESS SHOES \$3.99 UP	Ladies' - Spring & Summer Styles DRESS SHOES Reg. to \$9.99 \$3.00 UP

— EXTRA SPECIAL —
LADIES' — CANADIAN MADE
PURSES \$3.99 UP
REG. TO \$10.99

— CLOTHING DEPARTMENT SPECIALS —
MEN'S FINE DRILL — GREEN
WORK PANTS FROM \$3.29 UP

MEN'S FINE DRILL — GREEN
WORK SHIRTS \$1.99 UP

MEN'S — CANADIAN MADE
SPORT SHIRTS REG. \$4.99 **NOW \$3.49**

PLUS MANY OTHER BARGAIN ITEMS
ON SALE AT GREAT SAVINGS

COMING ATTRACTION!!
Drop in Next Week and See
Our Great Selection in Luggage

- FLIGHT BAGS
- TRAVELLING CASES
- SUIT CASES
- MANY OTHERS

SHAFI'S Shoe and Department Store

5 Mill St. - Acton