

The Acton Free Press

Founded in 1875
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Boundaries are confusing

Acton and district is still in the old federal riding of Halton for the May 22 federal election with candidates most voters are familiar with, although other parts of Halton Hills have been moved to the new Brampton-Georgetown riding and Erin joins Wellington-Dufferin-Simcoe after a stint in Halton that goes back to the days of MP Rud Whiting.

Electoral boundaries are getting more and more confusing, crossing over municipal, region and county lines and so long as populations change we'll likely see more in the future.

Federally, Halton Hills is now split into two ridings while provincially it is in one. One day we would hope to see the map makers all get together and leave Halton Hills with the same municipal, provincial and federal electoral boundaries. It would do away with all the confusion people experience now and consolidate community of interest.

The thing to remember is that

Acton is in the old Halton riding with Oakville and Milton for federal elections. Candidates are Liberal Frank Philbrook the incumbent, Otto Jelinek the PC challenger, and Doug Black for the NDP. Mr. Jelinek is presently MP for High Park-Humber Valley.

Georgetown voters, meanwhile, will be voting in the new Brampton-Georgetown riding with John McDermid, the PC banner carrier, Ross Milne, now a sitting MP for the Liberals, and Dave Moulton for the NDP. All three are from Brampton.

Burlington, that other part of Halton, has a riding of its own under redistribution with PC Bill Kempling, Liberal Tom Sutherland and NDP candidate Dan Dunleavy in the running.

Remember when Halton used to be one riding for both federal and provincial elections? Those days are gone with an amazing plethora of electoral boundaries succeeding them.

Recognition is deserved

The Chamber of Commerce selection of Rev. Andrew McKenzie as Acton's 1979 Citizen of the Year breaks a long tradition of naming a resident to the honor since Mr. McKenzie just recently transferred to a Presbyterian congregation at Perth. However, it is recognition well deserved.

We have listed Andy McKenzie's attributes in these columns before and don't feel constrained to do so again, only to echo the Chamber's selection as appropriate. He is the first man of the cloth to receive recognition from the Chamber, an oversight which has now been corrected.

It is a difficult choice for the Chamber each year to select an outstanding citizen from the

nominations sent in by ballot. There are many who could well fill the requisites of an outstanding citizen but the choice must be limited to one except in cases where an entire organization is selected for the honor.

Mr. McKenzie spent over 32 years in Acton. During that time he made friends and acquaintances of all faiths. Perhaps we should not only endow him with the Citizen of the Year mantle but with a key to the town in the hope he will visit us often and remember us in his prayers.

In any event congratulations and good wishes to the first citizen of Perth to become Acton's Citizen of the Year.



"Cyclone Sally" attracted many to the Georgetown Christian School, Seventh Line Saturday evening, when the Acton Drama Club presented the play. Fine performances by all involved helped make the evening a success. Cast members were Thys

Splinter, Henry Kroes, Jerry Kroezen, Harry Ensing, Aly Kroezen, Wilma Borens, Alice Schreiber, Frances Borens, Thea Krul, Helena VanDer Wal was prompter.

Opinion

Canadians can be proud

by Helen Murray

Canadian recording artist Burton Cummings summed it all up last month at the annual Juno awards night—Canadian musicians no longer have to leave the country to gain world-wide recognition.

And it is about time. The country has already lost many people who went on to make names for themselves. They were stifled in their homeland and had to head south to make use of their talents. Hank Snow has been in the States so long, many were not even aware he was a Canadian until Prime Minister Trudeau presented him with a special award last month at the Junos. Lorne Greene started out as a broadcaster with the CBC, but had to leave the country to become anything more than a voice behind a microphone. Paul Anka left the country at an early age and was a millionaire by the time he was 21, thanks to the American music industry. Their own country could offer them nothing.

All that is changed now. The entertainment industry in this country is just opening up, and it is the musicians who are benefitting first. Now, instead of just taking, Canada is giving something back to the rest of the world.

Doors are opening for Canadian talent. Names like Gordon Lightfoot, Anne Murray, Lisa De Bello, Dan Hill, Burton Cummings, Ronnie Prophet, Nick Gilder, and an array of other internationally known stars were called out at the Junos. Groups like Max Webster, Rush and the Good Brothers were on hand. It was a real treat to find out these people were Canadians. Hopefully the rest of the world will realize there is a lot more than "cute bums" and kinky estranged first ladies in this country.

At one time, not too long ago, to listen to good music, one had to purchase American records. However, it is no longer necessary to do that as Cummings' Stand Tall, Murray's You needed me, Hill's Sometime when we touch, Gilder's Hot child in the city prove. Pretty girl, by Lisa De Bello, Endless Wire, by Lightfoot, and many more show that Canadian talent is just beginning to come out of the woodwork.

Even the Canadian movie industry is flourishing. Just ten short years ago,

Going down the road, represented an example of Canadian talent. Since then, producers have learned, and are now making movies that get past the international border. At the time of this writing, Tony Curtis is in Israel making a Canadian movie. Michael Douglas, Peter Fonda and Richard Burton have all been in North Halton filming Canadian movies. Helen Shaver and Gennieve Bujold, who years ago were forced to immigrate south to find acting jobs, are now happily working in Canada, and not even starving. Toronto and Montreal have a long way to go to be a Hollywood or New York, but at least now they are trying.

Canadian television still has a long way to go before it can be called successful. News shows such as WS, the Shulman File and the Ombudsman still have a lot of work to do to catch up with Sixty Minutes, in the States. Canada AM is however as promising as its American counterpart

Good Morning America. Patsy Gallant and Rene Simard, both suffering the ails of a cancelled show, tried hard, but never quite made it. However, today, even American variety shows are struggling to survive.

The King of Kensington is one of the few good Canadian comedies on the market. It has its shinky weeks, and still can't compete with All in the Family or Mork and Mindy, but it is promising.

Two out of three entertainment fields isn't too bad to be leaping ahead in. Music and the movies have found the secret to Canadian success, maybe someday television will.

With the economy failing so embarrassingly, and Maggie Trudeau running around with her brain scattered in so many different projects, it is about time Canadians had something to sing about. Thanks Burton, Anne, Nick, Lisa, and all the others who have put Canada on the map.

OUR READERS WRITE:

Thanks for support

Dear Editor:
The five students involved the breaking of the "artificial respiration" record, wish to thank those who assisted in the attempt.

We wish to thank Frank Vetere's for supplying the meals for the three days. Zellers, in Georgetown, who lent us a mannequin, is to be thanked.

St. John's Ambulance gave us a loan of their "Rescue Annie" and without this, our feat would not have been made possible.

A load of thanks is owed to Miriam Beaton for spending the three days with us. She gave us a lot of support. Along with Miriam, all those who supervised us should also be thanked. The supervisors were Mary Ancker, Linda Foun-

tain, Doris Kovacs, Glen Campbell, Margaret Fryers, Gary Bannon, Renato Cadornin, Jean Beaton, and John Smith.

Most of all, we would like to express our thanks to Father Speagle, who gave us the use of the St. Joseph's Church basement. Without the use of the basement, even the "Annie" wouldn't have mattered.

Again thanks to everyone for all of their support and help during the three days of the March break.

Thanks
Gwyneth Gibb
Barb Hogenbirk
Ray Mueller
Nance Patterson
Richard Lee Stanley

Back issues

10 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, April 9, 1969

An estimated 1500 applauded the best skating carnival yet. Acton Figure Skating Club, with a record enrolment of 130 boys and girls, presented two shows to full houses. Solo numbers were skated by Linda Perry, Robin Marshall, Rick Gibson, Kevin Parker, Sharon Barber, Diane Baginski, Diane Charette and Debbie Drinkwater. Pairs numbers were skated by Lori DeBruyn and Vicky Bristow, Becky Baxter and Cheryl Bellefleur, Cathy Papillon and Patti Dunn.

Sportsman Charlie Thomson, a man who's ready to help with sports at any season, was picked as Acton's Citizen of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce. Chamber president John Shadbolt announced the choice to a surprised Charlie at his R.R. 2, Acton home.

Dressmaking and upholstery classes, revived by the Y board, concluded with a display. Showing a pleasing variety of clothes were Carol Korpele, Rhoda Shoemaker, Carolyn Wolf, Dorothy Van Wyck, Florence Sayers, Shirley Sayers, Evelyn Lutie, Lynne Robertson, Jean Paton, Margaret Sutton, Sally Leatherland, Pat Patterson and Doreen Gibb.

20 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, April 2, 1959

Approximately 50 children braved the raw east wind Monday to roam Acton park in the annual Y.M.C.A. Easter egg hunt. Big prize winner was Joanne Landborough. Jacoba Van Der Brink was second and Bill Landsborough third. Other winners were Clive Lawrence, Frank Morton, Linda Stevenson, Carol Camp, Lawrence Gordon, Debbie Jordan, Christine Preston, Graham Blundell, Marilynne Platt, Dorothy Lawrence and June Lawrence. W.D. Elmer Smith, local Y president, was assisted by G.W. McKenzie and W. Dubois.

There were large crowds of Easter worshippers in all the churches. Special services included cantatas and sunrise services.

Young people taking part in the sunrise service at Rockwood were Fay Marsden, Sheila Hosking, Marjorie Campbell, Marilyn Ostrander, Stanley Harris, Dave Perry and Ted Barbridge, with Rev. G.A. B. Moore.

Hanna Wallace will be particularly remembered by those who boarded at her home on Willow St. She died on Good Friday.

Major changes at Baxter's drug store are almost completed. Mr. Baxter's drug store are almost completed. Mr. Baxter began his 36th year as a druggist this year and came to Acton from Kenora 13 years ago.

A new teletype is in operation at the station and operator Jim Inglis sends messages direct to Toronto.

50 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, April 4, 1929

On Good Friday evening the choir of Knox church gave a cantata entitled "The Prince of Life." Afterward the choir members were served a banquet by the Ladies' Aid.

The Durant car demonstration, lecture and dance, provided by Mr. L. E. Atkinson in the Town Hall, proved a very attractive affair. The mechanical part of the car was fully explained. Three reels of films were shown and there was an interesting exhibition of cars outside the Town Hall.

Mrs. R. L. Davidson reported to council that the Women's Institute would be willing to put a false ceiling in the Town Hall over the stage.

That was rather too practical an April Fools joke that the Public Utilities Commission played. The dose of gasoline that filtered into the water mains was rather stiff for everybody.

Pre-Communion services in the United church this evening.

Keep the road drag going—it not only fills the ruts but keeps the roadway smooth.

Symon's Hardware moved this week to their new store, the former Co-Operative store.

100 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, April 17, 1879

Mrs. Fielding, Ospringe, has been fined \$10 and \$2.60 costs for allowing dancing in her hotel in the evenings.

The rumors which have of late been circulated around Acton concerning the unstable nature of Geo. E. Morrow, druggist, are, we are glad to say, untrue. However, a writ has been served against the man who runs the business here.

The Erin rape case has caused considerable excitement throughout the whole neighborhood. (The details follow.)

Mr. Thomas Watson Sr. of this village met with a serious accident while working on the railroad. When the patient finally consented, a leg was amputated. All the villagers express their sympathy for him, as he will be thrown out of employment by the accident.

