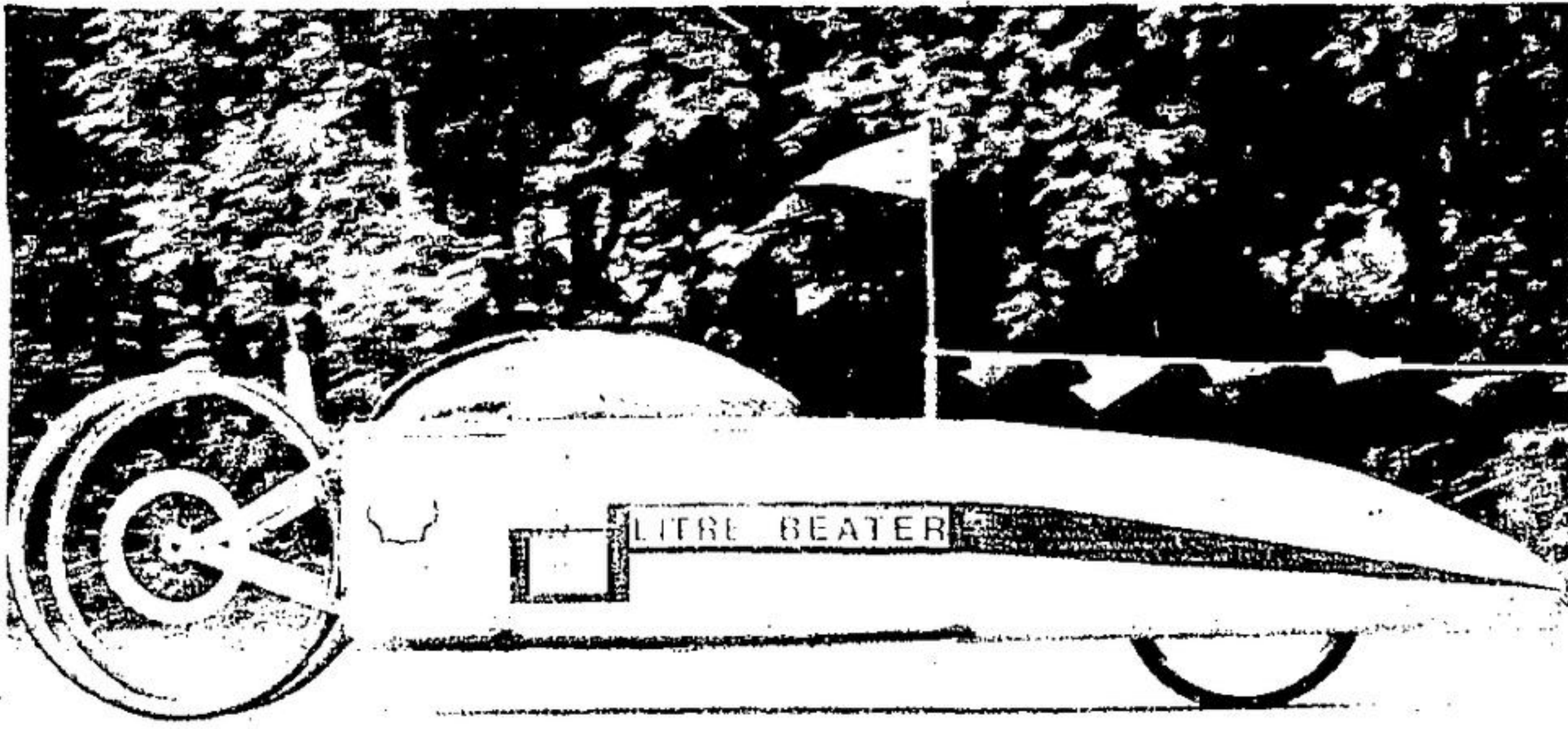


Eden Mills man sets fuel economy mark



Eden Mills resident David Banks helped design the Litre Beater. This strange looking vehicle holds the Canadian fuel economy record. Photo by TIM CHEVRIER

The research work carried out by an Eden Mills resident and two other employees of Shell could someday result in cars being manufactured in Canada which achieve phenomenal fuel economy ratings. David Banks, who moved to the hamlet with his family in February, helped design a strange looking vehicle called the Litre Beater.

In the 1979 Fuelathon sponsored by Shell, Banks and his two colleagues, Roger Barker and Murray Rose, established the Canadian fuel economy record of 998 miles per gallon of gas or 0.238 litres per 100 km.

Recently, at the 1980 Fuelathon they failed in a bid to break their own record. Their fuel economy mark was still impressive, 826.89 miles per gallon with the Litre Beater.

Banks and his family run the Eden Mills General Store and he works in marketing for Shell. When he, Barker and Rose developed the Litre Beater they all worked in Shell's products application department.

The Litre Beater weighs less than 100 pounds, is a little more than 18 inches wide and 125 inches long, has just one seat, uses three bicycle tires, is steered by foot pedals and is powered by a 4-stroke, 50 cc moped engine.

This year's Litre Beater was improved

in the hopes of establishing a new Canadian fuel economy record. It had a new nose, it was streamlined, rolling friction was reduced and the driver, Barker, sat lower.

However, all the refinements didn't help much since it rained the day of the Fuelathon and that slowed the car down a bit.

Banks, who is the manager of the Litre Beater, explained the car travelled an average speed of 15 miles an hour. It attains such high fuel economy marks partly because of the design and partly because of the way it is driven. Barker would go up to top speed and then coast with the engine turned off.

The original Litre Beater, built out of spare parts, cost about \$500. Now with improvements it's worth about \$2,000.

Banks allows the Litre Beater won't ever be a street car but some of the ideas which go into developing experimental cars do have practical applications that will show up in autos of the future.

The idea behind the mileage marathon is to attract college and university mechanical engineering projects. It gives the students a chance to try out some of their ideas. In these cars, everything is taken to extremes, rolling friction, design and aerodynamics.



David Banks, right, checks over the Litre Beater with two spectators at the recent Shell Fuelathon.

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Superior Glove expansion halts

The deepening recession in the auto industry has halted an expansion at Superior Glove Works and thrown the plant into a four day work week.

Owner of Superior Glove, Frank Geng, said his firm formulated expansion plans last fall, but halted the work half-way through the project.

A municipal building permit was taken out for the expansion worth \$125,000, however the work won't be completed in the foreseeable future.

When business started tailing off the addition of a warehouse at the south end of the main factory was already underway and so was completed.

However, a larger, costlier manufacturing addition at the north end has been halted.

Superior Glove makes work gloves for use in the

auto assembly and auto component industries. As layoffs in the industry have mounted Superior's business has slumped.

Geng said he hasn't been forced to lay off any workers yet, though some have taken extended vacations and leaves of absence. The plant is now working a four day work week.

When both additions are completed and equipment brought in the total expansion will be worth about \$300,000. The warehouse addition is valued at about \$40,000 to \$50,000.

Geng said all he can do is keep renewing the building permit because he doesn't expect business will bounce back enough to complete the expansion this fall.



The three parades start to converge at the tracks on Mill Street for the final leg of the Calthumpian parade downtown. Spirits of the approximately 100 participants weren't dampened by the steady downpour during the parade.

More photos B1 and B7

People wouldn't let rain kill Back to Acton Days

by Helen Murray

The people just wouldn't let Back to Acton Days die on the weekend, in spite of a constant rain storm Saturday morning and early in the afternoon.

Events were officially called off following the Calthumpian parade, because of the cold and rain. However, once the clouds parted and the sun shone a bit, dogs and children appeared expecting a pet contest, booths peaked out of stores, and the downtown mall came to life.

Dark clouds threatened Friday evening opening ceremonies, but the warm evening brought out many people as Louis Charlebois, decked out in a fancy red and black tuxedo, officially got the weekend underway.

On hand also were Miss Acton Fall Fair Cathy McGrath, Halton Hills Mayor Pete Pomeroy, MPP Julian Reed, weekend chairperson and local councillor Terry Grubbe, and councillor Ross Knechtel.

Mr. Charlebois noted it was the fourth Back to Acton Days, and gets bigger and bigger every year. "It is totally a community effort, and it is you, the people of Acton who are responsible for its success, and for this we thank you."

Terry Grubbe presented Mr. Reed with the Back to Acton Days t-shirt he did not receive last year in his absence, and a 1980 shirt with Julian Who? in large lettering on the back.

There was also a shirt for Pete Pomeroy, cashing in on an introduction at the Highland Games in Georgetown a few weeks ago, where he was called Mayor of Georgetown. Mrs. Grubbe made sure his t-shirt said "I'm mayor of Acton too!"

Providing entertainment for the remainder of the ceremonies were The Acton Citizens' Band, with two of the original members from 1942, George Elliott and Aldo Briada, Julian Reed and his banjo and Scottish Square Dancers, with Bob McGregor.

A crisp new \$100 bill was used by George Elliott to buy the first Actario ticket from Yvonne Rosenquist, to save the town hall.

Hundreds of people got soaked Saturday morning as they hit the pavement to join in the Calthumpian parade. The rains held off until the parades formed up.

Parade marshals were: Glenlea-Bovis, Arlie White; Lakeview, Esther Taylor; Kingham, Pop Main.

The crowd stayed around the downtown mall long enough for the bike decoration, best old fashioned costume and best crazy costume judging.

Winners were: Shawn Hillman, Sara Williamson, Troy Nolan, Tina McFadden, Mrs. Connolly, Marinette Haefling, Mr. and Mrs. Mac Sprowl, Christi Smith and Amanda McFadden.

The party had died, buried under inches of rain, when a few "never say die's" resurrected the show, insisting the cat and dog show go on. Their enthusiasm was catching, as some of the more por-

table booths set up for business again. Some booths never even got a chance to set up at all.

In the longest ears contest, Peggy Ancker's pal Blue placed first at 7 1/2 inches, with Tiu Jago's Rags at 6 in. Measuring in a 5 1/2 in. for third place was Terri, pet of Gary Vacek.

The longest tail was 15 in. on Dino, dog of Karen Knott. Rags, with Tiu Jago placed second with 14 in. Ben, owned by Denise Crooks and Lady, pet of Darryl Johnson tied for third at 13 1/2.

Peggy Ancker's Blue had the shortest tail—none at all. Tracey Bruce's Sebastain measured 2 1/2 in. and Lisa Vlietstra's Coco was third with three in.

In the best dressed class, Toots, owned by Don Potter, won first prize dressed as daa hot dog. Tiu's Rags was second as a biker, and Michael Hahn's Ginger was third as a lady.

Peggy's Blue easily took first prize as the biggest dog, followed by Denise Crook's Ben. Dino, owned by Karen Knott was third.

In the smallest dog, it was: first, Pixie, owned by Dwayne Robinson; Pogo, owned by Eddie Robinson; and Coco, owned by Lisa Vlietstra.

Judges were forced to split the tricks contest into two categories. In most unusual tricks the singing Sebastain, owned by Tracey Bruce was first, and Laura Lee Hachey's Muffin placed second with trick against the wall. In the regular tricks Tiu's Rags took first, Ginger, owned by Michael Hahn was second, Peggy's Blue was third.



Louis Charlebois was master of ceremonies at the official opening of the weekend.



George Elliott (centre) hands Yvonne Rosenquist a \$100 bill as he purchases the first Actario ticket. Ted Tyler cheers him on.

Rainbow Airway aids Actario flight

Acton's new official airline, Rainbow Airways, is taking its maiden flight Saturday and the first passenger will be the winner of an early bird Actario draw.

Chairman of the town hall restoration fund raising committee, Ted Tyler, announced the joint

promotional project between the new airline and Actario Tuesday morning.

Rainbow Airways is replacing CP Air as Acton's official airline.

Tyler explained CP is losing its exclusive licence here for failure to operate a scheduled airline to serve Acton.

CP earned the honor as Acton's official airline when during Acton's centennial year, 1974, it gave free passes to members of a celebration committee to go to Montreal to try and bring the Grey Cup here.

Weather permitting, the first flight of Rainbow Airways will take off sometime between 10 and 11 a.m. Saturday morning from Prospect Park. Destination of the test flight was unknown at press time, though hopefully it will be nearby since Rainbow has only one way flights. The airline offers totally air conditioned flights.

The lucky winner of this first flight will be one of the many people who wasted no time and bought their Actario draw tickets in the first week of sales. Actario tickets will be on sale at this special promotional venture.

Actario tickets are \$100 or \$26 plus three post-dated cheques.

Only 1,000 tickets will be sold in this lottery with weekly cash prize and bonus prize draws beginning in September and running for 52 weeks. Each month there will also be a draw for a trip.

inside

The memory of former Acton OPP officer Duncan McAlleese was honored recently by policemen. Story on page 3.

Acton High School will have a new principal this fall. More on page 5.

Lead levels are above safe limits at the Acton sewage plant. Turn to page 7.

Halton separate school teachers are after a 22 per cent pay boost. Turn to page 5.

Ballinasfad celebrated Canada Day on Sunday. Story and photos on page B6.

Halton Region councillors will debate disbanding Halton. Details on page B7.

You'll find Profiles on page 2, News Digest is on page 3, On the Leavell is on page 4 and rockwood Digest is on page 9.