

Acton raises \$4,500

Fox Trot big success



Cycling for Cancer, Lorn Doberthlen rides as advance guard for Terry Fox during Fox's Marathon of Hope run through Acton last week. Doberthlen, himself an amputee victim of cancer, was one of the major fund raisers for cancer research money.

Acton and area has contributed about \$4,500 to the Terry Fox cross Canada cancer research fund raising run. The Acton 'Fox Trot' was a big success.

A spokesman for the Acton branch of the Canadian Cancer Society noted the amount raised here will go even higher since some pledges and coin boxes haven't been turned in yet. Pledges and donations can be turned in at Acton Home Furnishings on Mill Street, East.

Early last Wednesday morning, when the famed amputee marathon runner came through Acton, \$2,200 was raised.

Acton waited weeks to see courageous Terry and his famous Fox Trot. He was to arrive Tuesday morning and be greeted at a special reception in front of the town office, but was delayed.

By early last week his Tuesday visit was postponed first to Wednesday and then later Thursday.

Then Tuesday morning word came he was in Guelph and might reach Acton that afternoon.

Following a noon hour reception in Guelph Fox

headed for Acton, but quit in the afternoon, fatigued.

By supper time he was again on the road and ran through Rockwood going as far as the Eden Mills turnoff on Highway 7.

Tuesday night he attended a reception in Georgetown while a car equipped with the Acton firefighters' public address system drove Acton streets announcing Fox would arrive Wednesday morning at 6:30 a.m.

Wednesday morning he started from the Eden Mills turnoff on Highway 7 90 minutes later than planned and arrived to applause in Acton at 7:35 a.m. Highways 25 and 7 through Acton and to the west of town were lined with spectators waiting to see Fox. He continued on as far as 22 Sideroad outside Georgetown on Wednesday and then ran through the rest of Halton Hills Thursday.

Some people in Acton and area were out watching for him by as early as 4:30 a.m. last Wednesday morning and by 6 a.m. downtown Acton was jammed with spectators.

PROFILES

with JENNIFER BARR



Have you ever wondered what you will do when you retire? Most people put off thinking such thoughts until it's just around the corner.

Louis and Margaret Smit of R.R. 1 Acton planned their retirement for 17 years and are now living an enviable back-to-the-land life on 50 acres—all paid for.

It started with the purchase of the land in the early 60's when land was relatively cheap. The treed lot on a private sideroad was everything the European born couple had dreamed of.

Still living in Toronto, Louis, then employed with Smith Brothers in the making of hydraulic trucks, and Margaret, an accountant with a trust company, started to create their retirement home in their spare time.

Their two sons were almost grown and they were looking down the road to a life after children.

Using his multitude of talents, Louis started to build the house. Until the house was completed, three tents (one an outhouse tent) were employed as vacation and weekend abodes.

The house, a charming natural wood structure of spacious design, was built on blocks at first.

Later, Louis completed the basement and moved the house onto the foundation. He talks about the moving of a full sized house himself as if it were all in a day's work. Actually, the move took six weeks and was accomplished by Louis and a small hydraulic cylinder moving the house a few inches a day on rollers.

The house wasn't only moved onto its foundation, it was turned from an angle as well. Margaret would watch from inside the house as her shelter slowly inched its way across the grass. By the time it was placed on the foundation, the house was only one eighth of an inch off-centre.

"It was sheer luck," chuckles Louis. From little comes much. After the house came an assortment of out buildings including a saw mill—Louis cuts his own lumber from his own trees. The basement is also fitted out with a complete metal working

shop featuring lathe and a milling machine, plus a complete wood working shop. Louis can make anything including a spinning wheel for his wife from an old sewing machine which he purchased at a sale for \$5.

"Never pay more than \$5 for anything," he comments.

As of six years ago, the Smits retired completely to live full time on their farm. "Retired" is merely a figure of speech because every time I visit they are both busy as beavers. Louis is constantly creating something and saving himself loads of money although his scrap pile is growing larger, much to Margaret's chagrin.

While Louis whittles, Margaret weaves, spins, bakes the most fantastic calorific unmentionables, preserves the produce of their garden, milks the goats, makes cheese, butter, and other pioneer things. Sounds like lots of fun, but it does take dedication.

Two years ago, the Smits got into animal husbandry. Up until then they had confined their farming activities to the woodlot, garden and a small number of chickens and ducks for eggs and meat.

The desire for a more unusual pet led them to purchase a donkey (very smart move) and they succumbed to the charm of livestockkeeping.

Before they knew it they had two donkeys, nine goats, three sheep, more chickens and ducks, as well as two dogs and a couple of grandchildren.

The animals run free on the 50 acres with only a boundary fence to protect them from the world (or vice versa). The garden and berry bushes are fenced. Margaret has given up her flower gardens as donkeys roam the perimeter of the house chewing on periwinkle and rockery plants. Ducks splash in the pond, stream and waterfall Louis built. A chicken lays eggs in the saw mill. Margaret has quite a daily trek to collect her hen produce.

Planning and hard work. The effect is that of idyllic benevolence. The Smits live the kind of life we all dream of. Their property seems to be a slice of heaven with all animals living in harmony and the Smits reaping the benefits.

But it isn't all ice cream and berries and skipping through the barn with an egg basket. It

takes a lot of hard, constant work to maintain the lifestyle Louis and Margaret have chosen.

"We just had to tighten our belts," comments Margaret. "If you have animals, it means one bottle of wine less."

"Most people don't dare (take up their lifestyle), they say how marvellous it is but they go home the next day", Louis says.

"You have to give up a lot!" agrees Margaret.

But Margaret and Louis gave up what wasn't very important to them anyway. They have retained what they enjoy. A sense of humour is paramount and the Smits have more than their share, laughing at the donkeys, stopping to smell the roses.

It takes special kind of people to live a simple life and stay stimulated, fresh, and alive. Margaret and Louis Smit are just that.

They've planned their life and are now realizing the fulfillment.



Louis Smit and friends.

No Ministry funding

Board can't do any more for Acton, trustee claims

There is nothing more the Halton Separate School Board can do at this time for the residents of Acton who are in an uproar over the recent funding by the Ministry of Education for a new school in Oakville instead of Acton.

Director of Education Cliff Byrnes and trustee for Halton Hills, Hartley Sherk, both agreed the board can do nothing now

but hope funding will come through for the Acton school in the September revision by the Ministry.

The Acton Parents' Association headed by Vince Whelan have claimed Acton was "shafted" since they were told Acton was the number one priority.

The Board contends they have two sites of equal priority, Acton and

Falgarwood in Oakville. Since the Board listed both schools as number one, hoping to get funding for both, the Ministry chose to support the school in Oakville.

"From my understanding from John Storey, regional Director of Education, the Province put the dollars where there is the greatest pupil growth," he said.

Byrnes said although the situation in Acton is far from ideal they are temporarily housed.

Sherk said they now have two separate schools in Oakville, St. Michael's and St. John's. "We have such an overload of children we now have to bus children in the St. Michael's area across town past their

own school to St. John's," he said.

Byrnes said the Board was very disappointed with the decision but added there really is nothing more they can do.

A busload of Acton parents attended the meeting last night (Tuesday), to express their concern for the decision by the Ministry.

Seniors' apts...

(Continued from page 1)

case of medical or other emergencies.

Ms. Archibald explained the needed cable from the street to the building was back-ordered and so servicing of the building was delayed. After the cable was obtained service was delayed because considerable splicing was required.

Bell had installed a temporary line into the superintendent's apartment so there would be some phone access.

Mrs. Lameront said the lack of phones hadn't presented too many problems.

Actario blitz next Tuesday

The first of a series of neighborhood blitzes to sell Actario tickets will take place next Tuesday night in the Glenlea area.

Household mailers, explaining the Actario draw, with an editorial supporting the project from this newspaper, will be distributed around Glenlea Thursday.

If Glenlea isn't completed by the canvassers next Tuesday night it will be continued Wednesday evening, with a start made on the Bovis area that night.

Volunteer canvassers are asked to call Ted Tyler at 853-1553 or Jake

Kulken at 853-0211 to volunteer or just show up at Tyler Travel Service at 6:45 p.m. on August 5.

THE ACTON FREE PRESS
Authorized as Second Class Mail
Postal Registration Number — 0515

a **achilles motors**

mazda
GLC, 626, RX7, PICK-UP... Your Complete Line Dealer!
SALES and SERVICE
347-351 Queen Street, Acton 853-0200

SEIKO WATCHES

10% off

Home Gifts Cards Jewellery

43 Mill St. East, Acton 853-3160

A-B
FOODLAND
MARKET

Prices effective July 30, 31, Aug. 1, 2/80
We reserve the right to limit quantities.

Van Camp (with pork) 14 oz. beans 2/.89	Liquid bleach 128 oz. JAVEX 1.19
detergent king size 6L (with borax) Fab 2.69	Asst. var. Bicks 12 oz. relish .68

Foodland fancy 48 oz.
tomato juice **.68**

Stock up on **FROZEN FOODS**

Kent Frozen 12.5 oz. orange juice .58	Picnic 6 1/2 oz. pink or white frozen lemonade 5/100
---	--

Puritan (20% more) beef stew 816 g. 1.59	sugar sweet cans Kool Aid 860 g. 2.39	Gold Seal Flake light tuna 6 oz.99
Puritan (20% more) Irish stew 816 g. 1.59	Peek Frean selected var. biscuits 400 g. 1.48	Johnson Yard Raid 450 g. 2.99
Purina dry (4.4 lb.) dog chow 2 kg. 1.79	salad & cooking Crisco oil 1.5 L. 2.98	Stain-Away with trigger Javex 500 ml. 1.59
Reg. or Mint flavour Crest Toothpaste 150 ml. 1.99	Monarch 425 g. pkg. quick loaf 1.09	Scott 2 roll pkg. paper towels . . . 1.19
Antipersp. acent or unscent. Secret solid 50 g. 2.29	Facelle-Royale 4 roll pkg. toilet tissue . . . 1.29	Asst. Varieties Tampax 40's. 3.19
Weston's 24 oz. loaf sesame crusty bread59	Weston's pkg. of 8 plain English Muffins . . .69	Meatime pkg. of 8 wiener or hamburger rolls 2/.99

CALLING ALL BARBQ FANS

Fresh B.B.Q. Chicken
Whole Cut-up
CHICKEN-IN-A-BASKET **99¢** LB.

Fresh B.B.Q. Ready
CHICKEN LEGS **\$1.09** LB.

Schneider's 500 g pkg.
Sliced SIDE BACON **\$1.59**

Schneider's Frozen 900 g ctn.
Cocked
BUCKET 'O' CHICKEN **\$3.69**

Schneider's 175 g pkg.
Regular LUNCHEON MEATS **.79**

Schneider's 1 lb. pkg.
SKINLESS WIENERS **\$1.59**

Schneider's 500 g pkg.
MINI SIZZLER SAUSAGE **\$1.99**

Schneider's Frozen 1 kg pkg.
Family Pak
Beef Burgers **\$3.99**

Bluewater Thrift pack frozen Fish stick 32 oz. 3.29
Foodland Parchment margarine 1 lb.43
Gillette The Dry Look Reg. or Extra Hold hair spray 200 ml. 1.89
Gillette Trac 2 Reg. or Ilme shave cream 200 ml. 1.59
Gillette 6 blades & 1 bonus Trac-2 1.69