



Premier William Davis and his mother, who was a Hewetson and well known in Acton, were on hand to cut the ribbon for the re-opening of Hewetson of Canada's shoe factory in Brampton. Hewetson had a plant in Acton during the 20s and 30s. Photo courtesy The Brampton Guardian

Firm used to be in Acton

Hewetson re-opens

The Hewetson of Canada shoe factory in Brampton re-opened last week after nearly permanently closing earlier this year. The firm had a branch plant in Acton during the 20s and 30s.

Premier William Davis and his mother, who was a Hewetson and used to come and visit friends here in Acton, were on hand for the re-opening in Brampton. The premier's father, A. Grenville Davis, was once president of the company. Davis cut the ribbon.

The Hewetson plant in Acton was on Church St. East at Fellows, where the Force Electric factory stood until just this past winter.

The firm began in Brampton and in the early 20s expanded its operations to Acton. The Acton plant operated until the mid-30s and when it closed some workers remained here and commuted to the Brampton plant to work while other Actonians pulled up stakes and moved with their jobs to Brampton.

When Hewetson shoes was in Acton it employed many of the town's young people. They were a "lively" bunch, putting on plays and dances at the old town hall and the firm was famous for its company picnics at spots like Eldorado Park.

Many Actonians, some of whom still work at the Hewetson factory in Brampton, got their start in the shoe trade with Hewetsons, moving on later to other shoe plants in the province.

Hewetson nearly closed in Brampton but then was sold to Sisman's of Canada, which manufactures safety footwear. Sisman's president Ted Rowe said at the re-opening he expects the plant to turn out 400 pairs of shoes a day with capacity for growth to 1,200 in the next eight months.

Hewetson is one of the oldest companies in Brampton and its building on Mill Street, North, is a landmark in the old part of the city.

Speyside Cable TV offices subject of public meeting

Overruling a staff recommendation, Halton Hills planning board decided to take another look at an application by Halton Cable Systems to build offices, television studio and a service department in Speyside.

The 3,000 square foot

building on a 37,222 square foot lot would be built like a house on the outside. The cable television tower is located half a mile from the proposed building site.

Halton Cable Systems contends the site would cut the costs of a return line from the present location on Armstrong Avenue, Georgetown. The planning staff in

opposing the application, noted the Niagara Escarpment Commission denied the development permit, and pointed out the Halton Conservation Authority is also opposed.

The Conservation Authority said the rear portion of the property is wet bush, and swampy and would require substantial fill for the staff parking and loading

areas. The Authority suggested the front portion would also have to be raised to assure no damage to the building during spring flooding.

The planning department claimed the commercial use is not compatible with a rural setting. The regional planning office in its first report in June raised no objection other than to point out the Halton Conservation Authority's concerns. However, in a July letter, the regional planning department said it could not support the application since it would cause a disruption of the rural character and is not in a designated hamlet.

Mayor Pete Pomeroy said he did not think it was such a bad use for the property and contended the lot was half in and half out the hamlet of Speyside. He said the option on the land by Halton Cable Systems expires this month.

The mayor suggested there be a public meeting, and the planning staff recommendation be defeated. By a one vote margin the motion passed.

The mayor warned Jim McGee, of Halton Cable Systems he faced a lot of headaches with all the opposition of agencies. "I want you to know before you ask for an extension on your option this could take a couple of years."

Hurricane Allen affects Actonians

by Jennifer Barr
Hurricane Allen, the devastating monster that spent most of last week ripping up the Caribbean and southern United States affected three Acton families who have foster children on the southern tip of Haiti.

It was with horror that I listened to reports of the uncontrolable storm flattening the area where our own foster son lives. Charles is housed in a poverty stricken area close to Port-au-Prince, one of the two badly hit areas, and we're very concerned about him, his very new baby sister, father and step-mother. They have no resources at all and without their meager garden crops they now have no food. Many people of Haiti, one of the poorest countries in the Caribbean, are in the same fix.

According to the Haitian office of PLAN (Foster Parents Plan of Canada) in Toronto, a cable was sent from the Port-au-Prince PLAN office Thursday, the day after the storm, confirming there were no deaths among PLAN families. However, other information is very sketchy. Obviously, officials in Haiti have far too much to do to worry about

communicating with Toronto-types.

So far it is known that the two worst hit areas, Port-au-Prince and Jacmel, both on the southern peninsula of Haiti, suffered "extensive damage" and there are 60 PLAN families "badly in need of immediate care and assistance".

This statement left me shuddering, knowing my own young lad was probably among this group. It immediately prompted me to send a cheque for my child and his family separate from the \$19 monthly payment we regularly make.

Debra Scott of the PLAN office in Toronto assures me PLAN-Haiti will be taking care of immediate needs without extra funds coming through for specific families. However, with their own funds so depleted, they will need donations to continue their good work.

PLAN operates in 17 countries including Haiti but only Haiti was touched by the storm.

Although the Canadian Government and the Red Cross are moving in with funds and assistance to disaster areas, PLAN takes care of specific children and families.

One of the nicest things about helping Third World residents through PLAN is feeling the touch of a child, your own special face-with-a-name-in-a-crowd.

There are 18 Foster Parents in Acton, Rockwood and surrounding area. Two families in Acton have children in Haiti. Their names can't be released because of PLAN's regulations on the privacy of their participants.

Anyone wishing to assist PLAN with feeding hungry children in Haiti may send cheques to Hurricane Relief - Haiti, Foster Parents Plan of Canada, 153 Clair Avenue West, Toronto, M4V 1P8.

News digest

Curling club break-in

Acton Curling Club was broken into again this week, the second time in the past 14 days. Halton Regional Police say someone entered the club between August 5 and 7 causing an estimated \$50 damage. Nothing was stolen.

BIA wants by-pass

The Acton Business Improvement Area (BIA) board of management wants the town to look into a by-pass around the town. In minutes of the BIA meeting held in July sent to council last week it is noted "attempts have been made in the past for obtaining town consideration of highway by-pass possibilities for Acton." The minutes state "the main intersection continues to prove almost unmanageable for transport traffic combined with normal traffic flow through downtown." BIA official Henry Stachyra will take this concern up with the municipality.

Snow fence for fair

Halton Hills council is lending its support to the Acton Fall Fair. Council recently decided to loan the Acton Agricultural Society 30 rolls of snow fence and 350 steel posts, though the society must pick them up and return them after the fair. The town will also make a garbage packer and town operator available for the park cleanup after the fair but the society must foot the bill. The town has given permission for banners announcing the fair to go up on Main Street south near Kingham Road and on Mill Street East in the vicinity of Frederick Street. The fair board will have to pay for any damage to the park turf during the fair.

Christmas in August

Christmas in August? That's right. The Acton Library is celebrating Christmas in the middle of summer, complete with a visit by Santa and other surprises, next Wednesday afternoon at 2 p.m. If the weather is warm there will be prizes for the strangest bathing suit and there will be Christmas games and movies.

Council backs vote on world disarmament

In an action far-removed from their normal duties, Halton Hills Council, this week, endorsed a motion calling for a world-wide referendum on disarmament, which will be forwarded to the federal government leaders. They, in turn, will be asked to propose such a world vote in the United Nations General Assembly.

Eldon Comfort, R.R. 4, Acton, asked council to consider the motion. He noted everyone wants peace, but few want to do anything that makes for peace.

He explained Operation Dismantle calls only for a vote on disarmament, and does not seek unilateral disarmament, nor cancellation of fighter plane purchases.

Comfort reminded council the countries in the United Nations agreed unanimously in 1961 on the concept of general disarmament. He said \$17 billion dollars a year would guarantee everyone in the world adequate food, water, health, housing and

education, and emphasized that the world spends that amount every two weeks on arms.

He contended the endorsement of the resolution giving the ordinary person a chance to express an opinion would be a step forward and pointed out 70 municipalities have already done so.

Councillor Mike Armstrong sympathized with the intent of the resolution but contended there had been wars since before Christ and anticipated they would go on forever. He asked what would happen to the workers in the armament industry if they were closed.

Comfort claimed the armament industry is capital intensive and for the same money three jobs could be created in

other areas for everyone in armaments.

Councillor Pat Patterson said he was opposed to disarmament and would prefer to see Canadian forces better armed.

Councillor Roy Booth wondered how a country defends itself if they have no arms.

Comfort described the world vote as an initial step toward an ultimate goal of world federalism, with a global police force, where no one country would have a sizeable force of their own.

Councillor Ross Knechtel admitted the resolution sounded, "pollyannish", but said he served in the armed forces with some nice people. "Some didn't come home, and I think they would want me to vote for this resolution."

Fair beer tent

Halton Hills council has approved both a wine and cheese party and a beer tent for the Acton Fall Fair. The beer tent, called Spot in the Park, will be operated Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 19, 20, and 21 while the wine and cheese party will be held following the Miss Acton Fall Fair contest on Friday night.

Correction

In a letter to the editor regarding litter at Prospect Park the word befool was changed to fouling. The Free Press apologizes for the error.

A Personal Conversation

WITH **JIM BEAULIEU** OF **ACTON CAMERA & PHOTO** LEATHERTOWN VILLAGE, ACTON



JIM BEAULIEU

Jim Beaulieu has only been in business with Acton Photo & Camera for three-and-a-half months but he says he's really enjoying it and is very encouraged.

"Acton has been more than fair to me, they've given me a chance and I've built up quite a clientele already."

Jim has lived in Limehouse since 1970 and was a freelance photographer prior to opening the camera shop and photography studio.

Born and raised in Pembroke, Ontario, Jim is married to Catherine and has a three year old daughter, Aimee. The couple are expecting a boy (positive thinking) in October.

Although busy with the management of his new business venture, Jim was even busier in earlier years. He was studying photography at night while taking a full time camera repair course and learning business management, all at the same time.

When he has spare time, after the business is more established, Jim hopes to devote some of his time to volunteer work in penal institutions working under chaplains with the inmates.

He's done some work previously with institutions in Guelph and Mimico. He feels "a lot of men behind bars have a lot of potential" and he wishes to assist by building friendships with a Christian approach.

"It's called making penitentiary positive," he says. "Penitentiary should soften not harden."

Jim is an associate missionary with the Shantyman's Christian Association - a missionary without financial support, he hastens to add - and he's very active in the Maple Avenue Baptist Church of Georgetown.

"Rehabilitation is great but too often it just makes a carpenter out of a thief, it doesn't take away the criminal instinct. Only through God can he be rehabilitated," Jim believes.

Acton newest photographer says he gets more reward helping people than in selling. He and his wife wish to make Acton their community and home. Jim is genuinely grateful to the town that gave him his start and says he "wishes to thank people for their patronage."

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LEAGUE PLAY BEGINS SAT., SEPTEMBER 13

REGISTRATION DATES

- Saturday, August 23 - 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- Thursday, August 28 - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.
- Saturday, August 30 - 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Y.B.C. REGISTRATION CAN BE MADE IN PERSON OR PHONE ACTON BOWLING LANES 853-0170
Registration Fee \$2.00

BOWLING RATES:

Bantams (2 games)	\$1.50	* Y.B.C. Rentals On Bowling Shoes 20¢ per pair
Juniors and Seniors (3 games)	\$2.25	

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- Bantams NOT 11 Years of Age December 31/80
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- Seniors NOT 18 Years of Age December 31/80

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