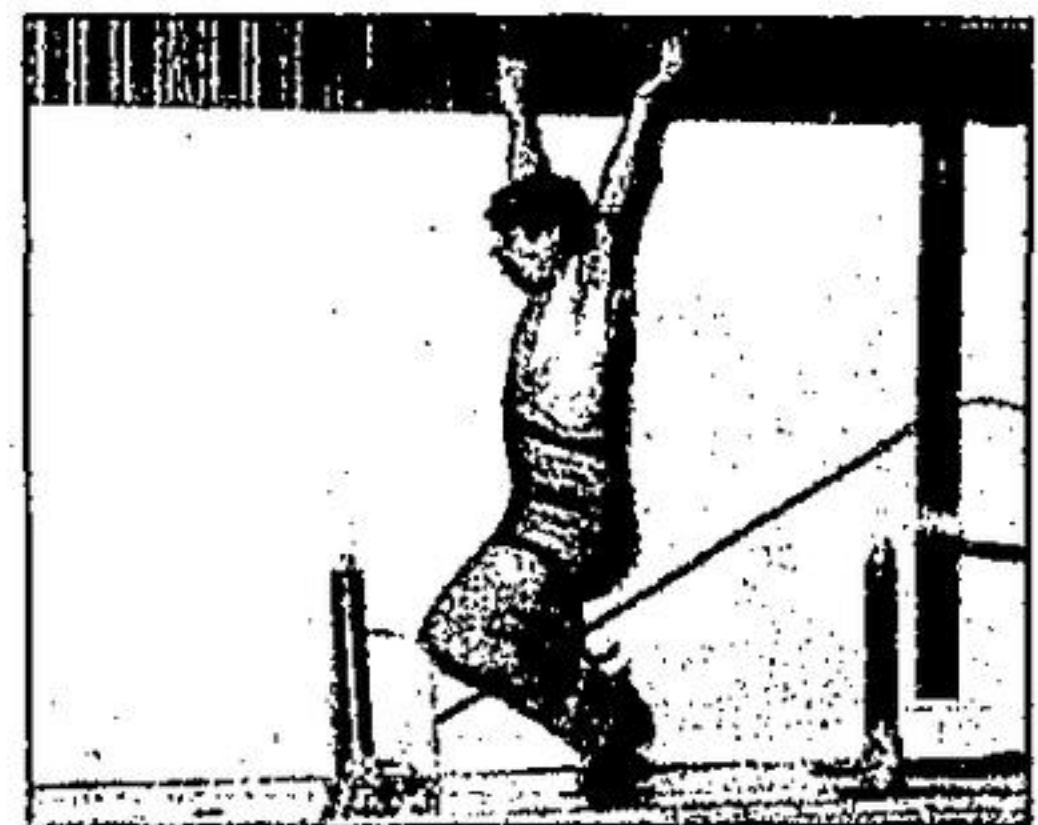




No, it's not tarzan, but Acton Lions Club member Peter Papillon at the water show.



One of the highlights of Friday's seventh annual water show was synchro swimming displays.



Flipper Harold Townsley takes the big dive.



Gwyneth Gibb performs a rescue with the paddleboard at Friday's water show.



Andrea Musselle gave Santa her Christmas wish list at the Beardmore Children's party.



The McIntyre triplets were wide eyed at the excitement of the Beardmore children's Christmas party Saturday afternoon.



Beji the magician delighted youngsters at the Beardmore Christmas party.



Halgaz Assadourian with his twin daughters Tahar and Tamar, who collected balloons in the shape of animals at the Beardmore party.

Board asks Queen's Park delay new kindergarten age

Haltion Board of Education wants the province to give it another year before imposing a later kindergarten starting age. For 11 years now Haltion's policy has been to allow children to reach their fifth birthday on or before the end of February to be eligible for kindergarten enrolment the previous September. This policy dates back to the days of the old Acton and Milton boards.

Recently the province reminded the board of its long standing regulation that kindergarten classes

should be made up of youngsters who have their fifth birthdays as of the end of December. If Haltion doesn't comply with the regulation grants would be cut for the underage students, costing Haltion about \$100,000.

Thursday trustees passed a motion asking the province waive its regulation until the 1982-83 school year to allow a phasing out of the board's present policy. The board also endorsed a motion calling for a Haltion delegation to meet with Minister of Education Bette Stephenson to

discuss the cutting of grants for underage kindergarten pupils. Trustee Noel Cooper said the board needs another year before complying with the province's regulation so parents expecting their children to be in kindergarten this fall won't be disappointed. He noted there is no need to circulate Haltion's request to other boards for support since only one other, public school jurisdiction has the early kindergarten starting age. He noted if the province rejects Haltion's

request the board must either comply with the regulation or pick up the \$100,000 tab itself. Trustee Anne Fairfield observed kindergarten starting age can't be forced on parents, they don't have to send their child to school until age six if they don't feel the youngster is ready. She was concerned the board was only looking at school starting age from a financial standpoint and not for its educational value. Superintendent of Special Services Ron Chapman said with its

request the board must either comply with the regulation or pick up the \$100,000 tab itself. Trustee Anne Fairfield observed kindergarten starting age can't be forced on parents, they don't have to send their child to school until age six if they don't feel the youngster is ready. She was concerned the board was only looking at school starting age from a financial standpoint and not for its educational value. Superintendent of Special Services Ron Chapman said with its

request the board must either comply with the regulation or pick up the \$100,000 tab itself. Trustee Anne Fairfield observed kindergarten starting age can't be forced on parents, they don't have to send their child to school until age six if they don't feel the youngster is ready. She was concerned the board was only looking at school starting age from a financial standpoint and not for its educational value. Superintendent of Special Services Ron Chapman said with its

Water show makes big splash

Friday's seventh annual Haltion Hills water show at Acton Lions Pool was a tremendous success. Swimmers from the town's various pool programs as well as Haltion Hills pool staff participated in the two hour show. A large crowd of spectators lined the walls of the indoor pool at McKenzie-Smith School. One of the big hits of the evening was a riotous swimming race between members of the Acton Lions Club and a team of councillors and municipal staffers, all decked out in outlandish costumes.

Santa also made an appearance at the water show, but he didn't get in the swim of things. Water show events included tiny tots, swimming by adults, several synchro swimming displays, diving, swim team events, Haltion Hills Blue Fins races, a paddleboard demonstration, swimming exhibitions by volunteers and pool staff, rescue demonstrations, a parade by the swimmers and a routine in the water with the lights off and the swimmers holding candles.

Following is the list of participants in the water show: Jody Johnson, Krista Hollyman, Tasha Peterson, Christopher Berner, Jason Bouwman, Julie Quinn, Michele Beaulieu, Cecile Tremblay, Doreen Gibb, Susan Scott, Cheryl Francis, Martha Couture, Shannon Johnston, Tammy Corkum, Julie Smith, Tammy Rodgers, Sharla Wood, Helen Staley, Michael Bowers, Mark Ovenden, Scott Ovenden, Heather Ormsby, Larissa Hrechka, Nancy Allan, Laura Brillinger, Beth Grien, Scott Gardiner, Gordon Hilton, Cathy O'Leary, Lee Gallant, Joyce McIsaac, Linda McGrath, Sarah Silcox, Karen Smith, Susan Galka, Elizabeth McGrath, Katey Wyn-

neck, Sharla Tibbitts, Anne McEwen, Shariene Berezuk, Shannon Abonyi, Jenni Lusby, Karen Pepper, Sylvia Piqueras, Shariene Berezuk, Tina Newman, Ana, Piqueras, Pat Tyhurst.

John Siderius, Cyndy Anderson, Andrea Stapleton, Gwyneth Gibb, Cayley Gresswell, Kathy Tost, Allison MacDonald, Rose Bydevaate, Linda Houston, Kelly Norgate, Heather Thatcher, Pete Morris, Karen Good-fellow, Pauline Heaton, Linda Kilpatrick, Len Fisher, Frank McGrath, Beth Stewart, Dave Quinn, Miriam Beaton, Robert Beerman, Karen Ley, Tina McGrath, Edwin Naber, Mary Lynn Morrow, Tineka Vryenhoek.

Marla Brillinger, Elizabeth Maynen, Dana Richardson, Jane Sewell, Kathy Coats, Melanie Paterson, Carolyn Sewell, Katey Wynneck, Renata Luisette, Linda Kilpatrick, Kathy Tost, Denise Newell.

Tom Hancock, Dean Jobin Bevens, Denise Newell, Cathy Lenze, Brenda Louyenga, Anita Fryer, Colleen O'Leary, Tammy Scott, Adrian Alder, Lori Fountain, Paul Doubt, Sheila MacDonald.

• NOTICE •

The Acton Free Press

HOLIDAY HOURS & DELIVERY

CHRISTMAS:
 - Classified Deadline Monday, December 22nd, 12 noon
 - Delivery Tuesday, December 23rd
 - Free Press Office CLOSED Thursday, December 25th and Friday, December 26th

NEW YEARS:
 - Classified Deadline Noon Tuesday, Dec. 30/80
 - Delivery Wednesday, December 31st
 - Office CLOSED Thursday, January 1st and Friday, January 2nd, 1981

ACTON MERCHANTS CHRISTMAS HOURS

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE ACTON RETAIL STORES CHRISTMAS HOURS OBSERVED BY THE MAJORITY OF THE MERCHANTS

DECEMBER						
MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.	
		17	18	19	20	
		9-9	9-9	9-9	9-6	
22	23	24	25	26	27	
9-9	9-9	9-6	CLOSED	CLOSED	9-6	
29	30	31	JAN. 1	2	3	
9-6	9-6	9-6	CLOSED	9-9	9-6	

REMEMBER... TO RIDE THE FREE CHRISTMAS BUS SPONSORED BY THE ACTON MERCHANTS

THE FREE BUS RUNS 6 DAYS A WEEK
 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. DECEMBER 15 to 24

the olde Hide House

the best of two worlds
 The soft, supple world of Leather

Pre-Christmas Specials

- Smartly tailored
- Full length suede
- coats with raccoon
- collars

the perfect present for the stylish young lady

at \$199

Warm and durable

- suede car coats
- with Borg lining
- practical
- attractively present
- for men

at \$109

the solid, stately world of oak and pine

COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELF

the olde Hide House
 ACTON - ONTARIO

49 EASTERN AVE. ACTON