

The Acton Free Press

TELEPHONE (519) 853-2010
Business and Editorial Office

Founded in 1875

Published every Wednesday by Inland Publishing Co. Limited at 59 Willow Street, Acton, Ontario, L7J 2M2. Telephone (519) 853-2010. Subscriptions: Single copies 25c each, \$13.00 per year in Canada, \$30.00 in all countries other than Canada.

The Acton Free Press is one of the Inland Publishing Co. Limited group of suburban newspapers which include The Ajax/Whitby/Pickering News Advertiser, The Brampton Guardian, The Burlington Post, Burlington Weekend Post, Etobicoke Gazette, The Georgetown Independent, Markham Economist and Sun, The Milton Canadian Champion, The Mississauga News, The Newmarket/Aurora Era, Oakville Beaver, Oshawa This Week, Oshawa This Weekend, and The Stouffville Tribune.

Don McDonald, Publisher

Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with reasonable allowance for signature will not be charged for but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the applicable rate. In the event of a typographical error advertising goods or services at a wrong price, goods or services may not be sold. Advertising is merely an offer to sell, and may be withdrawn at any time.

Member of The Audit Bureau of Circulation, The Canadian Community Newspaper Association, and The Ontario Weekly Newspaper Association.

Second class mail registration Number 0515.

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

Editor: Gord Murray
District Editor: Eric Elstone
Sports: Diana Waltmann
Contributor: Jennifer Barr
Contributor: Helen Murray
Darkroom: Lynda Hill

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT

Manager: Bill Cook
Sales: Jennifer Barr
Classified Advertising: Pat Kantner
National Advertising Sales Rep: Dan Poyntz (416) 363-1051
BUSINESS/ACCOUNTING OFFICE
Office Manager: Rhona Thornhill
Shirley Jacque, Carolyn Artem, Marilyn McArthur

CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT

Manager: Marilyn McArthur



Parents should police their mini-bike riding children

Halton Police have a tough job ahead of them in cracking down on mini-bike riders around Acton, unless they receive the assistance of parents.

There's lots of spots around town where these annoying little machines, more often than not ridden by children who shouldn't be on anything more powerful than bicycles, have been buzzing around since spring returned.

They clearly shouldn't be on the streets, and not just because it's illegal. Often they are ridden in an irresponsible and dangerous manner.

And there's no reason for them to be ripping around local parks and vacant lands causing property damage and noisily disturbing peaceful neighborhoods. That's also illegal.

Police ask a sensible question when they wonder why parents even buy their youngsters these machines.

Parents would be doing themselves and their children a favor if they stopped buying mini-bikes and the ones who already have them would be well advised to put them away in the garage, permanently.

Police have better things to do in Acton than chase around after a bunch of kids on mini-bikes keeping them from tearing up the park grounds or keeping them from ruining every nice evening in homeowners back yards over the next few months.

Police service is expensive. Unfortunately we must all pay for the police to do the job of some irresponsible parents.

It's good news students will research our leather history

The dual announcements that Monte Carlo night made LeatherTown over \$2,000 and that Ottawa is coming up with over \$9,000 for three students to research our leather heritage is welcomed news.

The idea of a walking tour of Acton's leather attractions is a gem. Unfortunately, until the news this week, it was going to be a long time being realized.

Money is needed for the glassed in cases which will be in front of buildings of leather historical significance. The profit from Monte Carlo night will prove to be just a drop in the bucket of what is needed, but it's a big drop and a good start.

However, the biggest obstacle was proving to be collecting the information.

Finding volunteers to tackle the mammoth research job was proving difficult.

Also, those with information to offer seemed reluctant to sit down with pen and paper and record their recollections. They were very willing to sit down over tea

and remember though. People weren't coming forward with facts after looking at the two history displays which were in store windows earlier this year.

It appeared the research alone was going to take ages, which would mean the tour itself was a very long-term goal.

Now, with the help of three students, long-time residents' recollections will be picked clean, files of this newspaper scoured and Ontario archives probed.

There's a wealth of information to be gleaned. The problem was finding people with the time and energy to wade through everything.

Many think these student make work projects are a waste of tax dollars but here's an example of a summer job which will hopefully produce a return far exceeding the investment.

If we're lucky some qualified, concerned students from Acton will apply for the positions through Manpower and fill the three jobs.



On the Leavell

With Helen

Acton resident Murray Harrison was the men's runner-up in the Euchre Night recently for the Fireflies Camping Club. Murray is the president of the Georgetown club.

This time last week, I thought I had broke even during the recent Monte Carlo night to help raise funds for LeatherTown. Well, I was wrong. While rifling through my purse last week, I discovered a familiar blue chip in the very bottom of the bag. It was worth 50 cents a few nights before, but that day it was useless. I had actually been up 50 cents over the night. What made me mad was that I didn't have enough change for the pop machine, but I was stuck with that stupid chip.

More birthday greetings this week to a visitor to Acton from Australia, Michael Van Der Haar, a guest of Bob and Janet Fleming turns 19 next week. He's learning the swimming pool business so when he returns to Melbourne he can explain why Canadians are always up to their necks in hot water.

Although Canada Wonderland in Maple has not officially opened, at least four Actonians have had a sneak preview of the new tourist attraction.

Brian and Jane Robertson, and two-year-old son Tommy, and Jane's sister Mary Watson enjoyed Saturday touring the facilities.

Mary said she wouldn't risk suicide on the rides, but had a good time just walking around sightseeing.

Does your yard need sprucing up? Has it taken five years to get the garage painted and it still hasn't been done? Or maybe you need some help spring cleaning? Well, don't despair, help is on the way.

The high school Outers Club members will do all these things and more for you, for a small (or large) donation to the group.

Call the high school and speak to any member of the club.

Good to see Ernie Marks up and around after a stay in hospital recently.

Hope to see another Acton resident feeling better soon. Halton Hills councillor Terry Grubbe has been under the weather lately with a persistent inner ear infection. But being the trooper she is, she still attends her meetings regularly, without complaints.

Hey Ted, we are all still waiting for your absolute proof of the location of Frank Prouse's car dealership back in the 50s.

Ted Tyler promised this great proof that Mr. Prouse's garage was always located at the present site of Achilles Motors, and never at the previously published L and L Ford site. Well Ted, that was almost a month ago, and every Wednesday night I expect your phone call. Don't disappoint me.

Got a nice surprise in the mail, courtesy of my mother in Collingwood. It was a copy of my home town paper, and the very first paper I ever worked for. Good old Mom gave me a subscription.

If I hadn't received that issue, I would never have known that the ugliest girl in my high school was getting married, and a friend has a very successful taxidermist business. (No, the two items are not related.)

Even though I have been away from Collingwood for almost nine years receiving that paper makes me feel a part of the town, it gives me ties other than my family.

And your hometown paper can do the same. Heading out to university in the fall? Or have you just graduated and got a job out of town? Make sure you take the Free Press with you. No matter how far away from home you are, you can always be sure of a little bit of Acton coming into your life once a week.

Congratulations to Dr. Ron Trenton Acton's veterinarian, who is expanding his business into Georgetown. I told you four years ago Acton would be good for you.

When Ron first moved to town he was

surprised to meet up with a fellow high school classmate, who was living in Acton. They hadn't seen each other in years. It was Free Press reporter Eric Elstone. They met in the Free Press newsroom while I was interviewing Ron when he first came to town. Now that's a small world!

Former Free Press Rockwood reporter Barb Wynneck has accepted a position on the staff of the Community Mental Health Clinic.

Barb is a psychiatric nurse by trade and left her part-time job with the Free Press over a year ago to join the staff of Homewood in Guelph.

She views her new job at the Clinic as another new challenge and is looking forward to all the position offers.

Now that Mothers' Day has come and gone, start thinking about Fathers' Day, in June. Just like Mom's special day, Dad's day will sneak up on you.

I hit a raccoon the other night coming home from visiting relatives in Brampton. I really had no choice. It came out of the dark and was in my lane. Cars were coming toward me so I couldn't swerve.

The death of the raccoon upset me. Not only because I killed an animal, but because it could just have easily been a dog or a cat. They are constantly running out in front of cars around town, I've noticed.

Some people feel it is cruel to tie up an animal, but I feel it is cruel to let it run free. A dog doesn't know to look both ways before it crosses the street, or to cross at a crosswalk. It is difficult enough to follow the rules of the road, while anticipating what another driver, not to mention what kids, are going to do. But to have to deal with an animal on the side of the road and wonder what its next move is going to be is unfair to the driver.

You can't tie up your kid to keep him from playing in the streets, but you can tie up your dog. Save a life, buy a chain.

I've heard about them, but I've never heard them myself—the radio commercials for the old Hide House. The one I heard was on CHUM radio early Sunday morning. It was pretty good, had a real flare to it. But for some reason I had to smile when it ended with "in the centre of Acton". Somehow, it's hard to think of there being a "centre" of Acton. A downtown maybe, but not a centre.

Back issues

10 years ago

Wednesday, May 12, 1971

Almost 100 people have been laid off at Mason Knitting Company. The present financial plight of the company followed consolidation of the company with S. Leonard and Sons of Dundas, with their employees moving to the Acton plant. The company started 45 years ago. George Mason sold the business in 1968.

Donna Darby won the Rachlin public speaking trophy. Runner-up was Sharon Phillips.

For those who are away weekends, Acton Clergy Association is arranging a church service every Wednesday evening in the summer.

Art Hilliard, one of Ontario's top band directors, has taken over as bandmaster for six months.

M and A restaurant has been completely redecorated.

20 years ago

Thursday, May 11, 1961

Three new teachers have been engaged for the public schools, Helen Landsborough, Mrs. Marie Andrews and Miss Audrey Allison.

Miss Marilyn Rogvaldson has graduated from Ryerson.

The C.P.R. station at Campbellville will be closing soon.

Singers from nine rural one-room schools in Nassagaweya and Esqueving took part in the North Halton rural music festival at the Robert Little school, S.S. No. 6 Nassagaweya and Pinegrove had the most wins.

Tonight over 120 eager canvassers start on the campaign to raise \$60,000 for the community centre. \$10,420 has been pledged already. Window stickers and lapel pins go to donors.

R. J. Cookley was elected chairman of the new County Industrial committee, Ontario's first.

John Goy Jr. was named the Most Valuable Player on the Bantam hockey team, chosen by vote.

50 years ago

Thursday, May 14, 1931

The annual contest of Acton Women's Christian Temperance Union was held in Knox school room and attracted a large gathering. Mrs. James Symon, president, was on the platform and the principal, Miss Bennett, supervised the program. Prize winners were Grace Lantz, Wilma Stewart, Isabel Switzer, Pearl McEnery, Barbara Guthrie, Elwood Johnston, Phyllis Mackie, Henry Ivers, Myrtle Aldrich, Ross Swackhamer, Dora Denny, Audrey Chalmers, Jack Graham, Alvena Gibson, Ada Elliott, Violet Elliott, Ada Elliott, Jean Bennie. The judges were Mrs. Harry Mainprize, Mrs. A.T. Brown and Miss Farrington.

The Halton Rifles will soon resort to the old title of the Lorne Rifles. Capt. J.R. Barber now commands D. Company at Acton and Georgetown and has as his officers Lieutenants Early, Lawson, Buchanan and Sutherland.

75 years ago

Thursday, May 10, 1906

The death of Mrs. S.A. Secord removes one who was intimately associated with Acton for nearly 50 years. Notwithstanding that she passed her 85th birthday she was able to attend to her business interests daily. She was born in Ireland and came to Canada at 13. She received her education in Hamilton at Mr. Cruikshank's famous select school for young ladies. After she married and removed to Acton, she conducted a general store at the corner of Mill and Main Sts. When the store was destroyed by fire with characteristic energy she erected a fine building on the opposite corner and had a store there for the next 20 years. After she retired this premises was destroyed by fire and a smaller building was built there. Her garden was the cynosure of all eyes... She may be truthfully said to be the founder of St. Alban's church. It was in her parlor the first church of England service was held. She arranged concerts and entertainments to help pay for the new church... Her mother love to her three sons was predominant...

Church St. has sustained the strain of the heavy tannery teaming surprisingly. New wide tired wagons are to be put on at once and they will help conserve the road.

100 years ago

Thursday, May 12, 1881

Would it not be a good idea for the reeve of Acton to proclaim Arbor Day, for the planting of trees?

Reeve Smith has sold the farm east of the G.T.R. depot for \$3,800. The property comprises 52 acres.

The members of Acton Company No. 6, 20th Batt., Halton Rifles, are to drill every Saturday evening in the drill hall until they go to camp.

Mr. L. Shain of Glen Williams visited Acton with his fine trotting stallion Lapadis Chief and his stall in Agnew's stable was the centre of attraction to the lovers of horse flesh.

The posts for the new street lamps have been erected.

Revenue for Acton Post office is increasing. The revenue from the sale of postage stamps etc. last year was \$1,288.15.

Our readers write

Petition against deer hunt

Dear Sir:

Reflecting on the Halton Regional Council meeting, Wednesday May 6th, we would like to express our satisfaction that council deferred the decision of the three-day deer hunt proposed for 1981. This allows delegates time to collect a petition from those opposed to the hunt.

The public, the council, and the Ministry of Natural Resources, now have three weeks to become more aware that there has not been a management study done on the deer since 1970. (Cumming and Waldon).

How many deer are there in the region now? The Ministry is speculating on deer population based on road slaughter increase in the last 20 years. The Ministry has failed to consider increase of traffic flow volume during the same time period!

We do empathize with certain fruit and nursery businesses which have lost substantial amounts of money, due to deer feeding on their produce. Why should all landowners in the region suffer from the intimidation of hunters, owing to few complaints. Perhaps the consideration of opening the hunt on these particular farmers' properties, could be a just solution.

It has been publicized that there was no objection to another deer hunt this fall. It must have been over-looked that last fall there were in excess of 2,500 No Hunting. No Trespassing signs posted in objection to the hunt.

We would also like to remind the public we were lead to believe "deer hunting is not allowed in the Region of Halton" according to the MNR's summary of hunting regulations.

According to the MNR, a report on the 1980 hunt ("pre-hunt information plan"), was issued to the media to recognize that, "it was essential that the public be correctly informed about the hunt." We are not aware that any concerned landowners in the region received such knowledge.

The Niagara Escarpment is a favorable reservoir for all wildlife and ecology. We should be thankful that we have the opportunity to enjoy such a unique area. There are 1,665 hunters who wished to have the white-tailed deer removed from existence in this natural setting. Of those, only 31 percent were residents.

We are convinced the majority of the residents as well as visitors, would prefer to preserve the deer.

If the Ministry can obtain biological data, proving that indeed there is an over-population of deer, we will rest our case. Until such time, we are requesting that those concerned persons clip out the attached poll and send it into this newspaper.

On behalf of the timid, defenseless deer, we thank you for your support. Please act now!

Debbie Kilmer
Pauline Marland

I, the undersigned, am opposed to a three-day deer hunt in Halton and Flamborough in 1981. The MNR has not provided sufficient evidence that there is an over-population of deer in our area.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: (optional) _____



Mrs. Phyllis Arnett looks for a bargain at the Y's Men's rummage sale, held in conjunction with the Y's Men auction Friday night at the Curling Club.



Taking a break from the Y's Men Auction Friday night are left to right: Margaret Wilson, Ben Benson and Ann Peterson.