

# The Acton Free Press

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Business and Editorial Office

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## Bouquets to Joyce

The announcement this week that Joyce Carpenter of the Acton School of Dance was hanging up her dancing shoes came as quite a shock to many parents and children in town.

In the 25 years she has been teaching Acton children Joyce has made many friends. She's been confidante to growing teenagers, den mother to young girls, and friend to many.

Many of her students she has seen grow from preschoolers to mothers themselves. She helped them bloom to graceful teenagers and helped them through those "awkward" years.

Joyce's contributions to the town were recognized Friday evening by Halton Hills Mayor

Pete Pomeroy who presented her with a certificate of merit. But they have been recognized for years by her students.

Former students were on hand Saturday night for one last grande finale, and grande it was. There wasn't a dry eye on the stage as girls of all ages finished the show. There probably weren't too many dry eyes in the audience either.

The older girls, and former students were thinking of all Joyce has contributed in their lives, while the young girls, just knew they would miss her very much. Just as the curtain closed, Joyce brought one small sobbing child into her arms and hugged her. It was indicative of 25 years of dedication.

## Ron McKnight inspiration shows what disabled can do

Ron McKnight is an exemplary choice for Acton's 24th Citizen of the Year.

His contributions to the community through sports, Rotary Club, Acton Chamber of Commerce and Branch 197, make him a very deserving recipient of the honor.

But, McKnight's selection is even more appropriate since this is the Year of the Handicapped.

For over a decade Ron has been proving to all of Acton that the disabled aren't disabled at all and that they can really make tremendous contributions to the lives of all those who are around them.

His efforts in sports are particularly inspirational.

Sports like hockey and ball are by their nature physical activities. For those who are really

passionate about these sports it's difficult to sit on the sidelines, especially when one is young.

A lot of people involved in sports organization, in effect spectators, burn out and give up after just a few years.

Not Ron McKnight. He has enjoyed many, many years of sitting on the sidelines helping many young people learn all the values and virtues Citizens of the Year exhibit.

Sports enthusiasts, Rotarians, Legionnaires and of course his family are all mighty proud of Ron these days.

But those who are smiling the broadest smiles of pleasure at his selection has to be Acton's handicapped residents.

He's shown everyone just what a handicapped person can do for his fellow citizens.

## Applaud Sprackman's move drop his IGA plaza objection

In the past we have been quick to put the rap on Landawn Shopping Centres president Jerry Sprackman.

We're pleased this week to hand him a bouquet for withdrawing his objection to the IGA plaza plan downtown.

It's nice to see that after many weeks of negotiations it looks like he has reached an agreement with the developer of the downtown plaza, local contractor Doug Fread, and IGA store owner Dave Manes.

He won't object to their plan any longer and they won't object to his.

We've criticized Sprackman for not appearing to have the best interests of Acton at heart when he

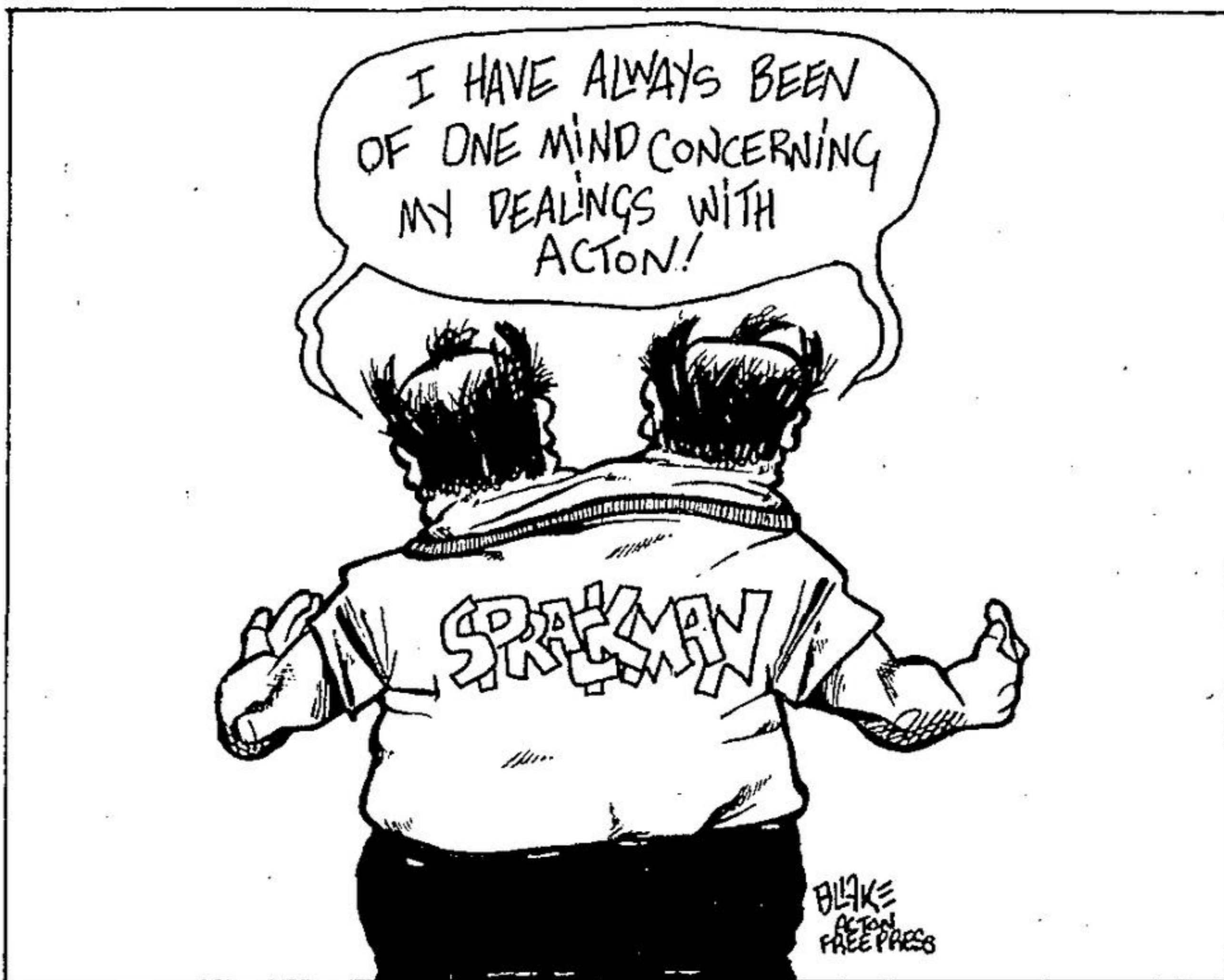
objects to proposals for commercial and industrial development here.

At the same time we've tried to make it clear that his tactics aren't new, all sorts of developers do the same thing. Object to every other proposal to put pressure on a council to approve their plan.

We don't like to see it done, but it certainly isn't illegal and most people in his position, simply trying to run a profitable business and using every legal means to reach their goal, would do the same thing.

Sprackman has taken a positive action towards Acton.

Let's hope he now decides to settle his other matters before council and the Ontario Municipal Board quickly.



## On the Leavell

With Helen



Wayne and Shirley Scott celebrated their 23 wedding anniversary on the weekend. They marked the day by attending the Legion Beef Barbecue Saturday.

Congratulations go out to Achilles' Motors' Les Pettis who has won a trip to Rome.

Les leaves July 12, courtesy of Mazda. He and his wife Lisa will be accompanied by 29 other couples, all leading Mazda dealers.

Les won the trip in a "Spring Hundred Day Challenge", a Canada-wide contest with 150 participating dealers. Points were awarded for the percentage of sales each dealer was up over last year during the same time period.

Of the 150 dealers, Les came in third with sales up 167 per cent.

With two of Acton's principals leaving their offices for good at the end of this week, it is easy to see some of the remarkable coincidences between the two.

Doug Magwood, principal of M.Z. Bennett, leaves after four-and-a-half years in Acton. He first came here in February 1977 to replace Gary Dawkins who left to set up and head McKenzie-Middle School.

Also in February 1977, Sean Briggs was taking enrollment for the new Catholic School to open in the fall. Both men's first full school year was 1977-78.

Both men were helped greatly by two principals who have since passed away. Mr. Dawkins proved invaluable to Magwood, while Hazen Allen, of Robert Little was a constant source of information and help for Briggs.

Even the name Joseph is common between the two as Briggs leaves St. Joseph's, and Magwood goes to Joseph Gibbons.

And now both men are leaving, and both at the end of the week.

The route for Sunday's Y's Men's Blathlon is: Starting at Prospect Park, Park Street to Mill E. to Doby Road to Kingham to Storey to Cobblehill to Victoria to Brock/Agnes to Frederick to Church. From Church to Eastern to Queen to Longfield to Churchill Rd. S. to Westcott to Acton Blvd. to McDonald to Wallace to Mill to Bower to Willow to School Lane to Main to Elizabeth to Elmora to Elizabeth and around the lake cross country back to the park.

Chamber of Commerce executive is pleased to note total membership now stands at 125, including 33 new members. With the year only half over that's a pretty good track record.

The Investiture by Honourable John Aird Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario for St. John Ambulance was held at St. Paul's Anglican Church Toronto on June 6.

Among the recipients was Donald McLean who received a third bar to his Service Medal. A reception followed in the Lieutenant Governor's Suite at the Parli-

ment Buildings. Mr. McLean was a resident in Nassagaweya for many years and has been active in the St. John Ambulance of Guelph for 27 years. Three years ago he was invested at Ottawa as a Serving Brother.

He now resides at R.R. 2, Elora and is employed by Canadian General Electric.

Calling all CWAC veterans. The 40th anniversary reunion of World War II CWAC is being held September 25 and 26 in Toronto, but organizers are having a tough time notifying everyone. Any-one interested call (Toronto) 781-2872, 781-3821, and 488-4027.

Neighbors on Greenore Crescent got together for their fifth annual barbecue Saturday and then enjoyed an evening of fun and games. Families involved were: Roland Wright, Irene and Jim Brewster, Ken and Ailive Cichorki, Pat and Jerry Woshalik, Kevin and Gwen Merritt, Cathy and Jim Carswell, Irene and Marty Jeanron, Bob and Maryanne Howsam and Bill and Ingrid Eakins Jr.

Homes included are numbers 36 to 56, one side of the street only. Of the 12 original families, only four remain. This weekend, neighbors welcomed four new

families and said goodbye to one family. Jerry and Pat Woshalik hosted the event.

And here's wishing luck to three Acton girls who are attempting to get personal letters back from their favorite television stars.

Marla McLeod, Belinda Taras and Liz McGrath visited the Free Press last week with a stack of color posters of their Hollywood heartthrobs. Liz explained that if they did something really out of the ordinary, and let their "Favs" (that's teen talk) know about it they might—just might—get personal letters back.

That's where I come in. Being young myself once (we all had our turn), I offered to help the girls. That's when they pulled out several teen magazines with all these color pictures of cute—but young—stars.

The posters included Ralph Macchio, who plays Jeremy on Eight is Enough, John Schneider who is Bo on the Dukes of Hazard, Scott Ballo, Chachi of Happy Days and Michael Damian, a singer.

I hope putting their picture in the paper helps get them letters back.

But I'm still waiting for an answer back from Davey Jones of the long defunct Monkees. It's only been about 13 years since I wrote to him.



There's no business like show business and three Acton girls hope to prove it. These girls have crushes on television stars and want the Hollywood guys to know it and write to them. They thought something zany, like getting their picture in the paper would draw the stars to them. Good luck girls. Left to right Marla McLeod, with a picture of Ralph Macchio, Belinda Taras with John Schneider and Liz McGrath with Michael Damian and Scott Ballo.



Some neighbors on Greenore Cres. celebrated their 5th annual barbecue Saturday night.

## Back issues

10 years ago

Wednesday June 23, 1971

What might have been a serious fire was doused by store manager Don Lindsay at A-B Supermarket Tuesday morning.

A walkway which connects Lakeview subdivision and Prospect Park and runs parallel to the eastern shore of Fairy Lake will be closed off soon, according to Ted Brankiewicz, a resident of Elizabeth Drive, who claims he owns the walkway land.

Work on the senior citizens' apartments and geared-to-income housing is transforming the north side of Cobblehill Road. Eighteen family units and 12 senior citizen apartments are included in the project which is rapidly going ahead now after a wait of almost three years before final approval could be obtained. The houses and apartment building will be on a cul-de-sac.

20 years ago

Thursday, June 22, 1961

Robert Little students raised \$111 of their \$200 pledge for the new arena at their Fun Fair.

Keates Organ Company Limited will establish their industry in the former Wool Combing building. It is expected 12 organ-builders will be moving to Acton. Bert Keates says the company has enough work ahead for two years. Already located in the building are Michigan Bulb Company and the Thermoid Division of H.K. Porter. The announcement was made by Norman Braida, chairman of the industrial committee.

Mrs. E. C. Reed, assistant principal of the high school, addressed the graduating classes of both schools at their banquet. Awards were presented to Barbara Churchill, Paul Phelan, Donna Shortill and Gay White. Toastmaster was Axel Nieszczeri. Gifts to the schools were presented by Linda Braida and Jane McCrae.

50 years ago

Thursday, June 25, 1931

In a letter to council, Acton Citizens' Band indicated they would endeavor to finance the year on a reduced grant of \$150, rather than \$200, this year.

Postal rates have increased. Local delivery is two cents, other offices three cents for the first ounce.

The Acton England Gazette, reporting on the throes of a town hall controversy, reports that Acton, Ontario has had a town hall for fifty years.

The past week canvassers have been busy in Acton securing names to a petition to present to the Legislature favoring the sale of beer and wine in grocery stores. Offers of ten dollars a day have been made to the workers and five cents per name in town and ten cents in the country is paid to canvassers. Plenty of money is in evidence and the workers are promptly paid.

Baron Gratton, owned by D.H. Lindsay, has been winning in the harness races.

75 years ago

June 21, 1906

Mr. Alfred Littlely, one of the operators of the rolling machines at the sole leather tannery had his left hand caught in the machinery on Saturday morning and the thumb was badly lacerated and half torn off. The injury was a painful one but the young man will soon be able to return to work.

With an Acton boy as promoter and part owner of the new James Bay Railway from Toronto to the North-D.D. Mann—it was fitting that an Acton boy should be the engineer in charge of the first train out of Toronto. The train was in the charge of Conductor Fred Russell and Engineer Charles Quantic.

The Oakville Record says: "Principal Stewart of Acton gave an excellent paper on 'Ornamentation of School Houses and Grounds.'" Mr. Stewart's paper was full of practical suggestions. Discussion followed by Miss McQueen and Miss Bennett."

The recent general sessions of the County Court granted naturalization papers to Charles Suey, laundryman, Acton. Mr. Suey has been a resident of Canada for five years.

100 years ago

June 23, 1881

The remains of our late citizen Josiah Adams were interred in the Acton cemetery on Friday last, with Masonic honors, the deceased being at the time of his death a member of Walker Lodge of Acton.

The picnic in Nassagaweya last Thursday was a grand success. Our band boys claim to have been the principal performers at the concert given in the evening, having rendered several vocal and instrumental pieces with admirable effect.

The re-opening of St. Alban's church on Sunday evening brought a large congregation. The services were conducted by the Rev. W.J. Pigott, Incumbent.

Acton is growing daily in favor as a market for farm produce and as a consequence the merchants here are doing a larger business than ever before. Farmers who henceforth traded in Georgetown, Milton and Guelph now come to Acton.

## Our readers write

### Poor sportsmanship shouldn't be tolerated

Dear Sir: There are still parents who stress good sportsmanship and poor sportsmanship is not tolerated.

An excellent game of ball had fans watching intensely as Rockwood Pro Hardware pee-wees defeated Glen Williams 4-2 in what you would call a pitchers duel at the Acton minor softball tournament. The winning pitcher was Craig Shaw.

The game was dampened at the top of the sixth inning by an intent to injure incident by a Glen Williams player. The Glen player was ejected from the game by the base umpire, Dave Pich. First baseman Kirk McNabb suffered a broken ankle and it had to be wired. As a back-up pitcher

also he was a big loss to the team. His mother, said "you could almost stand it if he had fallen and broken it." Jean McNabb Kirk's mother, herself a former coach, told me "an incident like that is strictly poor sportsmanship."

I understand the team hasn't lost a game in quite a while and every team needs a few losses to become good sportsmen.

I think a good coach would be sitting that boy out for a few games. How else will he learn if no discipline is shown.

There is a boy lying in hospital sick from drugs to kill the pain and the other boy is still playing as of Monday night.

Sincerely,  
Fran McKnight

## Letters to editor welcome but signature is necessary