

Profiles

with Jennifer Barr



Louis and Flo Charlebois have only lived in Acton for seven years but they're as well-known as most lifelong residents.

Louis is famous as past president of the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary member, Town Hall restoration committee member and popular Back-To-Acton Days M.C.

Flo has been the lively proprietor of The Toddlers to Teens Store on Mill Street East, recently sold to Janet Goy.

Acton is losing this community-minded couple and their five daughters. They're moving to St. John, New Brunswick, to start life as Color Your World specialists.

Louis, formerly Ontario sales manager for CIL paints, recently with SICO paints, has decided to join the competition. He has purchased the largest associate Color Your World dealership in Canada, which just happens to be in New Brunswick.

Intrigued by the marketing concept of the Toronto based decorating store chain, Louis inquired about the possibility of becoming a dealer in an area closer to Acton. On finding one was available in St. John he decided to make the change. He and Flo spent three years in Truro, Nova Scotia, before coming to Acton and loved it.

"The people are so nice," says Louis "you have to gear down. The weather is very nice but I've known the Scotch mist to last for 10 days," he chuckles.

Flo has run Toddlers to Teens for six and a half years. With five girls to clothe she was well aware of the need to find good quality garments and utilized her acquired knowledge when stocking her store.

The idea was born one evening over a drink—"it was a little dream I had," Flo says.

Louis agreed to "bankroll" his wife's endeavor, and Toddlers to Teens became a reality taking over the small premises once occupied by Village Variety which moved next door.

The couple have been married 25 years and enjoy a quintet of daughters. Lyne, 24, is a teacher married to a Nova Scotian. Josee, 22, has recently graduated with her B.Sc. in nursing and will be working at Mount Sinai Hospital. Anne, 20, is currently studying geography and history at Mount Allison. Andree, 16, is in grade 12 at Bishop MacDonald in Guelph and Julie, 13, is in grade 8.

"Even the cat's a female," Louis groans. As president of the Chamber of Commerce one of Louis' first major functions was to attend council when the resolution to demolish the town hall was passed. The resulting committee to resurrect the building was born with Louis a founding member.

He was also in on the inauguration of the downtown Business Improvement Association. As well as his many Acton activities, Louis is with the Guelph Toastmasters and is past president of the same organization in Truro.

He and Flo enjoy golf and have been members of both Acton and Guelph clubs.

"We've really enjoyed Acton" they agree and say their stay here has been their longest in any town.

"Acton gave a lot to the Charlebois clan," says Louis.



The Charlebois clan—Andree and Flo in the back, Julie, Louis and Josee in the middle, friend Melanie Hands in front. Absent are Lyne and Anne Charlebois.

More bear sightings

Is someone setting them free?

There have been more bears spotted in the rural area west of Acton and the provincial ministry of natural resources is beginning to wonder if someone, somewhere, is setting bears free.

Residents in both north Nassagaweya and Eramosa have seen bears this month. A bear was killed after it attacked livestock in this area last summer and later a bear and cub were seen in the area. Earlier this year two bears were spotted just off Highway 25 north of town. A few years ago a bear and cub were seen in the Ballinfad area too.

Bruce Buckland of the ministry of natural resources Cambridge office says they'd appreciate hearing from residents when they spot a bear. He said they received a report of a female bear and her cub being seen in the Acton area this month though the Halton Conservation Authority.

Bears and cubs have been seen by children waiting for a bus on the Eramosa-Erin Town Line, at a house construction site on the Fourth Line of Nassagaweya and by a Crewson's Corners resident in the last few weeks. Vince Synott, an RR 2 Rockwood farmer, saw a bear near his herd of calves and cows. He thinks it was probably the same bear seen at Crewson's Corners.

Buckland said the province would like to pin-point where the bears are being seen around here so they can keep track of their movements. While they

aren't considering live trapping the bears and moving them to a less populated area they are keeping the possibility "in the back of our minds". If they received complaints about the bears they'd likely then move them.

The Cambridge office doesn't even have any traps on hand. To trap a bear they'd have to bring down culvert traps from Northern Ontario. This time of year he says the best bait would likely be bread dipped in honey, in the spring putrefied meat would be used, and the doors on either side of the culvert trap are set to close once the bear is inside.

The ministry has no idea where the bears are coming from. Buckland noted there are bears in the Bruce area which could be coming down here along the Niagara Escarpment which is pretty well covered. Or they might be coming from a huge, swampy area near Barrie. However, both routes, especially the Bruce,

seem a long way for bears to travel, he said. The province is suspicious the bears may be being turned loose by somebody.

However, they'll have to catch a bear to determine if it has been pen-reared. A pen-reared bear would likely be heavier and its claws would be worn down from walking on concrete.

The only place licensed to keep bears in this area is the African Lion Safari and they aren't missing any.

There have been no reports of bears escaping anywhere either, and if someone is simply letting them go then they would inform the ministry. Buckland notes people do keep exotic pets and then find they are too much bother and set them free rather than destroy them. If the province ever finds out someone has bears and is setting them free then they'll either be licensed or the remaining bears seized.

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Gov't cheques due today

Rockwood village and rural residents may expect all government cheques to be delivered today, July 29.

A post office spokesman said cheques were due to be delivered this morning and would be available for mail boxes. Rural carriers will be delivering to rural routes today.

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Region back on right track...

(Continued from Page 1) and efficient level of local government.

Observing there are areas of Halton where it is less popular than in Acton, Whiting noted with all the work the region has done here it is at least an arguable proposition. Acton won't grow in the future so the region's larger tax base will to our benefit eventually.

In fact Whiting says he doesn't hear all that many beefs about regional government; mostly he just clarifies regional policies for ratepayers and mends fences when regional staff exhibits a poor attitude towards taxpayers' complaints.

"You hear a bit of grumbling still, but most people in Acton are reasonable and realize regional government isn't going to go away, the province just won't allow it."

Since being elected he's been working full-time on regional and Halton Hills matters, abandoning his work in real estate. He notes his name still appears on his old firm's advertisements, but that's only so he can keep his licence active for the time he's out of politics. His wife Heather is working in real estate and when he receives calls from clients he refers them to her.

He sits on not just the regional committee, health and social services, he is assigned to, but also attends the other committees and offers input. He was particularly active at budget meetings and is proud of the fact some of the spending cuts he recommended got through. He's also busy with Children's Aid Society meetings and the Manor board.

Whiting says he's concentrated on the region more than Halton Hills since at the area level Acton already has two strong, effective voices. (Terry Grubbe and Ross Knechtel) while at the region he's Acton's only voice.

But with all the meetings for both levels of government and seminars so he can learn more, Dave has found he must cut back on his community involvement. He's first vice-president of the Chamber of Commerce and expects to tackle the president's job next year. But he hasn't been able to get to many Rotary Club meetings and isn't an executive with the condo ball league anymore.

Another time consuming chore for politicians is representing the municipality at dozens and dozens of social functions. In addition finding answers to questions and solving ratepayers problems eats up a lot of hours.

Overall Acton's rookie politician is really enjoying his duties and is glad he stuck with trying to get elected after two unsuccessful attempts. He hasn't even become disillusioned by the red tape and slowness with which government moves.

Looking ahead he doesn't expect Halton will have the provincial equalization grants problems the region had this year in 1982 which should stabilize taxes somewhat.

At the same time he will still be looking for a tax hike in the neighborhood of 17 to 20 per cent next year because he wants the region to keep pushing ahead with road reconstruction projects and continue beefing up the police force.

He will be speaking out loudly against future debenturing because ratepayers simply can't afford to pay the sky high interest rates.

Because the 1980 audit was done before the region budget was struck he expects the region won't face deficit woes again and council is finally keeping a close eye on department spending.

But the big issue ahead is solving Halton's mounting garbage problems. He doesn't think Site F will ever be a dump so Halton has got to get moving on doing something with garbage besides simply burying it. He thinks the best solution will be to burn our garbage and find a way to use it for energy.

He also wants the region to start spending money

in more visible ways. He firmly believes a lot of money isn't being wasted, but people just don't realize what the region is doing because a lot of work, like water and sewers, is buried.

He concludes the deficit is going to "haunt us for years." Halton is finally getting around to doing some things properly, things which should have been done years ago, and will cost us all a bundle now because of high interest rates.

Lakeview road tender accepted

Graham Bros. Construction of Brampton has been awarded the contract for the reconstruction of Lakeview subdivisions roads.

Halton Hills Council Tuesday night accepted the tender which came in lowest at \$219,134. Three tenders were received, the highest being \$283,724. There is \$227,000 in the 1981 budget slated for the job.

Phase two of the Lakeview subdivision will complete Elizabeth Drive, Jeffrey Street and Tyler Avenue.

Work will be done on Elmore Drive, but that road will not be completed until phase 3 is undertaken two years from now. Next year storm sewers will be reconstructed on Elmore.

Ramp at PO

The year of the disabled has not gone unnoticed in Acton. Taking advantage of the month-long postal strike, the Canadian government is putting in a wheel chair ramp at the Acton Post Office.

At present, the ramp resembles a swimming pool. Workers are digging a 10 foot square hole adjacent to the east entrance but Chris McMillan of the Post office states the hole is to become a wheel chair ramp for the handicapped.

West of the ramp site two large signs have been erected declaring "Canada Post Office, Acton" and the "Government of Canada" for the Customs and Excise Office.

Work on the ramp is estimated to take another week.

Emily Price of Friends in Deed, a group for the physically disabled, didn't know the ramp was being built but said she was delighted.

"That's just wonderful" she commented then asked if any modification were being made to the entrance doors. Present doors are wide enough to admit a wheel chair but swing out and are too heavy for a seated person to manage.

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charcoal starter 17 oz. Zip cubes	.98
Old Time 10 lb. charcoal briquets	2.29
Del Monte in juice crushed, dss. bts. sliced pineapple 14 oz.	.69

Mrs. Smith's frozen 14 & 20 oz. asst. spec. flav. cream pie	1.69
asst. flav. 4 1/2 Quench crystals	1.69
Bick's 500 ml. asst. pickles	1.19
Herford 12 oz. corned beef	2.19
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Kellogg's 675 g. Corn Flakes	1.38
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