

Profiles

with Jennifer Barr



Wes Brown and his garbage of renown! Acton's Wes Brown doesn't have a band but he sure finds a lot of treasures discarded in dumps and junk yards.

Two notable finds have been a suitcase full of old papers thrown out by Milton courthouse that Wes sold for \$175 to the Ontario Archives; and a partial copy of an 1877 Halton Atlas discovered in a junk pile.

Wes has been around Acton for 10 summers staying in a tiny caravan in the Breezes Trailer Park. Surrounding his compact abode is a pile of bedsteads, pumps, washbasins and a much-used moped. Treasure hunter Brown is a familiar sight bombing round Acton and Milton on his motorbike—complete with crash helmet.

During the winter 75 year old Wes lives in Milton close to the scene of his first find at Milton Dump.

Born out west, Wes spent his early years working a farm near Saskatoon. He tells of one summer working sidekick to Wilf Carter, a young ranch hand who practised singing to records. Wes was there when Wilf was given his first radio singing break before he went to become a part of entertainment history.

As a small boy in Saskatoon, Wes was thrown from a buggy by a frightened horse and his hearing was damaged. He's been shouting ever since.

During World War Two, Wes took training for war work and ended up on an aircraft assembly line in Fort Erie. There he married and after the war became manager of the local YMCA. Not content to stay in one place, Wes earned his living providing tourists with horse drawn rides through scenic caves. Selling fish was another sideline.

Arriving in Milton several years before retirement, Wes worked as a crusher at Campbellville Gravel Supply and met his friend Harold Morby. He and Harold are now partners in the treasure hunting business.

Among the pumps and bedsteads, Wes has found a wide variety of old stamps dating back to 1864, a cannonball, an old steam engine, Chandeliers, an antique post hole digger, a couple of ancient Kodak cameras, a mess of hydro insulators dating back to 1893, a 150 year old Orange Lodge sash from Ireland, and an old set of scales.

Going the rounds of flea markets and antique sales, Wes finds a market for his goodies but seems to prefer to hang on to most of his things. His small trailer is piled to the roof with interesting pictures, papers, and artifacts.

There's something of value in every junk pile and Wes Brown knows it.



Wes Brown, treasure hunter of renown, with some of his junk pile finds.



The Interpac meet was held at Mohawk this week and local pony club members loaned their horses to the riders from a number of nations, as well as acting as grooms. Left to right are, Ross Turner of Rockwood; Kim Muspratt, RR 1 Acton; Kelly Sachau of Milton; and Claire Shepherd from Georgetown.

Rollerskating in Guelph Tuesday aids Acton Guides, Brownies

Acton's Brownies and Guide leaders have hit upon a novel way to raise money for the coming year's activities.

New Guide group set for this fall

A fourth Acton Guide group will be born this fall but it still won't allow all graduated Brownies to carry on to the next step up in the Guide movement.

Since spring, work has been underway to organize a new Guide pack, one of the leaders of the new group, Jean Haggitt said. Mona Petrillo and Linda Hardy are also leaders of this new pack which will meet Tuesdays at the Scout Hall.

Last fall 17 girls flew up from Brownies to Guides. Unfortunately there wasn't a group for them to join.

Now these girls will join the new Guide group.

However, there will likely be another batch of graduated Brownies from last year who won't be able to continue because there aren't any

Condecor building sold

Condecor sold its showroom building west of Acton on Highway 7 on Saturday.

Head of the insulation material company, Fred Neumann, said he couldn't reveal at this time who has purchased the building.

His firm now has located its offices and some storage space in a building on Armstrong Ave. in Georgetown. The showroom was moved, he said, so it would be closer to Toronto. Condecor has a manufacturing facility on Main St. North in Georgetown.

Fire calls up slightly

Acton firefighters answered one more call in the first half of this year than they did in the January to June period in 1980.

Recently Halton Hills council received a report from Fire Chief Mick Holmes showing Acton firefighters answered 61 calls in the first six months of the year.

There were two fewer calls, 18, in April of 1981, nine in May of both years and four calls in June 1981 compared to eight in June 1980.

Total number of fire calls in Halton Hills had dropped from 195 to 168. Damage totals in all Halton Hills fires have also dropped, from \$207,194 for the first six months of 1980 to \$183,508 for the same time period this year.

for skating at Roller Alley, 86 Dawson Rd. Guelph, \$1 will go to support the Acton Guide and Brownie program.

One of the organizers, Jane Haggitt, explained the local leaders are expecting about 200 Brownies and Guides from here to make the trip for the afternoon of fun. She noted they are looking for parent volunteers to drive children to the roller rink in Guelph, anyone interested in helping call Mona Petrillo at 853-1109 or Alley, 86 Dawson Rd. Guelph, at 853-0270.

Besides Brownies and Guides they'd also like to see other youngsters come out and skate to support this worthwhile cause. Acton youngsters will receive a discount pass for the next time they want to skate at Roller Alley as a special bonus for their participation next Tuesday. Adults are also invited to come out and skate.

Lightning strikes hydro substation

Acton hydro users got off luckier than those in Scarborough after lightning struck sub-stations in both places. Only Acton's Robert Little School was af-

ected by the local incident. Lightning struck Acton's substation located in front of the Free Press about 2:30 p.m. last Tuesday. Loud popping noises could be heard above the noise of machinery inside the newspaper building. Halton Hills Hydro Crews climbed up the pole to fix it during the electrical storm only to discover the damage was underground. Work to fix the underground primaries continued until Friday.

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Yugoslav Centre...

(Continued from page 1) residents this week to see if they want the town to lay more charges, even though the first charge hasn't been dealt with in court yet. Lusty concluded the municipality is fully aware of neighbors' concerns, is taking every legal step available and continuing to monitor the situation.

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