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Don McDonald, Publisher

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Spadina, Joliette vote is message to vacationers

Voters throughout Ontario and Quebec owe their brothers and sisters in Spadina and Joliette a big vote of thanks.

Firstly they showed we're not quite as dumb as we have appeared since we sent Pierre Trudeau and his Liberals back into power in 1980 by defeating both of the Grit candidates in Monday's by-elections.

But more importantly they sent a clear message from central Canada to Ottawa. We are fed up with a government that's on vacation and showing no concern and only disinterest in the shabby shape of our economy.

By-elections are notorious for being a spot where we can safely rap the government's knuckles and still not go through the trouble of changing governments.

Between general elections governments will often lose a string of by-elections and then be returned to power. For that reason they don't often indicate a proper mood of the electorate or a trend.

But these two seats were unique. Spadina was viewed as the safest Liberal seat in English Canada.

The Liberals had a heavyweight carrying their flag, Jim Coutts, the man behind Trudeau himself for so many years now.

Coutts ran the same kind of campaign he ran for Trudeau in the last federal vote, say nothing and stay away from any thorny issue, like the economy. Fortunately it didn't work.

Dear business people and citizens of

Since the beginning of the year the

"Leathertown" Committee has under-

taken many initial steps to secure the

identity of Acton as "Leathertown". We

have designed and adopted a logo and

passed out logo key rings to the stud-

ents in all the schools in the area. We

have undertaken the exciting and com-

plicated task of compiling an accurate

history of Acton and its development. A

museum site has been tentatively

chosen and we are working toward the

realization of this site as our historical

base. A route for the "Museum Walk"

has been set up. The list goes on and on.

A great deal has been started and there

The Wednesday August 12, 1981 issue

of the Acton Free Press contains an

editorial that each of us in Acton should

read. It points out the tremendous,

potential of our town and its people.

This potential is now being developed

by the "Leathertown" Committee, but,

Saturday August 29, 1981 is the date of

as the editorial states, we need help.

the last Actario draw in the year's ser-

les. As part of that draw the Actario

people have planned a Leathertown

Market for Willow Street in front of the

town hall. "Leathertown" will have a

booth at the market to show the people

I would like to thank all of the aquatic

I enrolled my son for two sessions and

was extremely pleased with the

staff of Halton Hills Summer Swim-

ming program at the town pool.

Dear Sir:

is even more to be done.

Also possibly, the Liberals have learned a much needed lesson about manipulating us like we were silly putty. They booted a young backbencher up to (or is it down?) to the Senate to clear the way for Coutts, a move which disgusted many. They must have also learned the ethnic vote is no longer theirs to claim as if it was their right. Chinese, Italian etc. voters deserted the Liberals in droves for the winners, NDP candidate Dan Heap', and the Tories Laura Sabla. In fact had the Conservatives not done much, much better than they usually do in Spadina, Heap would undoubtedly have won by substantially greater margin.

Tory veteran Roch LaSalle held the seat for the Conservatives, preventing the Liberals from putting a lock on Quebec completely. However, while he was expected to win his margin, over 14,000 votes, compared to by less than 1,000 last time out, indicates finally there is disfavor with Trudeau in his home province. The Liberals threw everything they could at Joliette, but still wound up sliding.

Hopefully these loud messages, not just from Ontario and Quebec, but in fact for all Canadians, will be heard in Ottawa and they'll get back to work and start doing something about our economic mess of spiralling inflation, slumping currency and backbreaking interest rates.

This message should either prompt Trudeau to take action or move his timetable ahead for retirement.

of the town just exactly what we have

done and what we hope to do. We will

also be having our first guided walking

But as stated earlier, we need help.

tour of the town and its historical sites.

The point of this letter is Help! We

need people to help with our efforts.

People who want to get involved. We

also need financial Help! We need

money to set up our museum, to pay for

various feasibility studies, and many,

many other things. There is a saying

that it takes money to make money. In

order to fully explore the potential of

"Leathertown" we need financing and

The next meeting of the Acton

"Leathertown" Committee is Wed-

nesday August 26, 1981, at 7.30 p.m. to

be held at 21 Mill Street West. Your con-

tribution of time is just as important as

your financial contribution. Please

attend our meeting and donate your

Cheques may be made payable to:

Help us finish the great things we

Remember: The ultimate beneficiar-

I look forward to future programs so

An appreciative parent.

Chip Petrillo

les of what we have started will be the

people of Acton. Thank you in advance.

"Leathertown" Committee, P.O. Box

we need it now.

time and ideas.

104, Acton, Ont.

have started.

does my son.

Thanks.

Our readers write

Leathertown chairman

says group needs HELP

ACTON FREE NHAMR representative Edith Hilfman.



With Holen

Acton said goodbye to Flo and Louis Charlebois and family, who are making their home in New Brunswick now after seven years in Acton.

Even the town of Halton Hills said fond farewells. Councillor Terry Grubbe, and good friend of the Charlebols, presented the couple with a pen and pencil set on behalf of Mayor Pete Pomeroy. Halton Hills crests were also given out to each member of the family as a remembrance of their years in Ac-

The family said goodbye to their home on Friday when the movers took their furniture away but stayed in town until Saturday, sleeping at the Grubbes.

Nassagaweya resident Robert Bateman is making quite a name for himself with his paintings. A few of his paintings will make him even more famous when they hang in one of the new homes of England's Prince Charles and his bride Diana. As a gift to the couple, he sent some of his work which was typical of Canadiana.

The Marauders ladies softball team recently held a lucky draw, at the home of Phyllis Garrett, 298 Arthur St. Winners were: 1st, S. Timbes; 2nd B. Patterson; 3rd J. Pickles; 4th K. Smith; and 5th J. Crabtree.

Jim Gordon recently visited me and showed me a scrapbook of poems collected by his mother Lottie Gordon during World War II.

In all, he figures there are over 200 poems, clipped from newspapers, some religious, some not. Poema about the King, Colonel McCrae, Hitler, the Lorne Scots, the Flag, and men of England, Soldiers, Kaiser, mothers, fathers, the Queen Mother; grandmothers, and Christmas fill the book.

Jim explained that when his oldest brother Harold joined the RAF and was in the war, his mother was inspired to start the book. Her clippings disappeared for a while, but Jim just located them recently. He plans to donate them to the Legion War Archives so they may be shared by everyone

in town, Chairman She also had a book of songs, but Jim "Leathertown" Committee hasn't found it yet.

> Almost 150 people turned out to St. Alban's Parish Hall last Saturday to help Jim and Ena Gibson celebrate their Silver Wedding Anniversary.

> Their actual wedding date was August 18, (yesterday) but daughter Carolyn was home for the day from an out of town job, and the whole family wanted to be together to share the

Daughters Pat Hirlehey and Carolyn Gibson, and son Rick planned the big event, right down to having their mother's wedding dress and a bridesmaid's dress on dress forms. The original floral bouquets were duplicated to help bring back as many memorles as possible. Pat baked the wedding cake and Carolyn iced it.

One of the bridesmaids, Mrs. Wes

Jones was on hand to help pour tea, while Kathy and Bill Sanford videotaped the entire afternoon and evening.

Guests attended from Toronto, Stratford, Hamilton, Bowmanville, Bradford, Guelph, Caledon, and Hanover. Special guests were Ena's parents, Mr. and Mrs. E.G. Jennings from Eden

The table cloth used for one of the tables was crocheted in the pincapple design by Ena's nephew Gary Couture rom Stratford.

About 30 of the guests at the open house returned to the Gibson home on Mill St. for a supper between the afternoon and evening open houses.

Roy Brooks, of RR 2 Acton, discovered a little more than crops while out working in his Fifth Line fields yesterday morning (Tuesday). He found a 45 inch puff ball (mushroom). It's not the first time he's found them, and the family enjoyed a delicious meal of it that day.

MEANDERINGS by Mabel Barkman

During the summer when we are constantly working in the garden, our fingernalls and even our hands get grimy with dirt. Gloves protect a great deal but often they are lost or the fingers are worn through and the hands get dirty.

I have found that a weak solution of bleach works wonders. Swish the hands through a few times, then wash thoroughly with water and a scented

Bleach, full strength, scrubbed into the grout in the bathtub with a toothbrush also removes the black mildew one often sees this time of year.

High quality lawn chair re-webbing is still being done by handlcapped employees from ARC industries, Hornby. But this summer they are working out of Halton Hills Re-webbing, a summer project made possible through a federal project 1981 grant.

ARC Industries, one of the services of the North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded (NHAMR), has offered re-webbing services for many years along with a variety of packaging, light assembly salvage and other sub-contract work for local industries.

This summer's grant has enabled ARC to move the re-webbing operation to separate roomicr quarters in the old Sunshine School in Hornby. The project is supervised by one of four students hired by the NHAMR for the summer.

Gordon Frizzel, a handicapped employee who lives independently in Georgetown explains that the old webbing is stripped from the chairs which are then drilled for new webbing chosen by the customer to be installed.

"ARC trains and supports handleapped men and women like Mr. Frizzel to work as independently and productively as possible," says Rhonda Patterson, NHAMR vocational director.

Halton Hills re-webbing gives challenging and valuable work experience to the three to six adults working here. At the same time it is a good deal for local residents who prefer to pay \$4.50 for re-webbing a chair or \$7 for a lounge rather than the steeper cost of buying a new chair, said Mrs. Patter-

The re-webbing is used by residents from all over North Halton with the Georgetown Legion giving very strong support by collecting and delivering large numbers of lawn chairs said

For more information call Mrs. Hilfman at 853-2588 or Arc Industries at 878-

Seems Acton has a thief who likes to take it easy.

Got a call recently from a concerned Acton Blvd. resident who says her lawn chairs were stolen from her front steps sometime Sunday night. She was using them in the evening, and they were gone in the morning. And a neighbor is also missing a lawn chair, taken at the same time.

The resident explained her chairs had been sitting out for 19 years with no problem, and she is a bit upset at the disappearance. They are the old redwood kind and cannot be replaced.

> + + + CRAFTY IDEAS by Joan Williamson

I picked up a copy of the Fall Fair prize list the other day. Now that is a sign that summer's on its way out! And if the Fall Fair is coming, then the bazaars and Christmas sales aren't far behind.

Here's a basic pattern that can be used, with a little Imagination in the tail and ear line, for a variety of woolly animals. Vary the size of the toy by using different thicknesses of wool and sizes of knitting needles. It makes a good dog and can also be a lion, hippo, cat and even a pony with longer legs.

Your Basic Beast-Use garter stitch



Body: Cast on 20 stitches. Knit for 3 inches, then start to decrease by knitting the first two and the last two stitches together on every row until there are no stitches left on the needle. End off. This gives you a long piece, pointed at one end. Fold this piece in half, lengthwise, and sew together from the pointed end down. Stuff with polyester fibrefil before closing end.

Head: Make a piece by casting on 10 stitches and knitting two inches. Cast off. Fold piece in half lengthwise and sew together, shaping muzzle end of head by pulling on the short end seam as you sew. Sew head to the angled end of the body piece.

Legs: Cast on 10 stitches and knit one inch. Cast off. Make four. Sew them together and stuff before attaching to

body. Ears: Pointed ears can be made by knitting a triangle - cast on four stitches, knit one row then decrease one stitch at each end of next row, knit two together and end off. Sew to head curving ear at base. For longer ears (hound) - cast on two stitches, increase one stitch at each end of the next row and at each end of the following row (six stitches). Knit four rows. Decrease one stitch at each end of the next three rows. End off. Make two ears of either

Talls: Cast on 15 stitches, knit two rows, cast off. Sew together lengthwise. To lengthen tail, cast on more stitches. Embroider eyes or sew on felt eyes and nose. Add a bow. Use your own ideas to create a special beast. Change the ears and tail, lengthen the legs.

Back issues

10 years ago

August 18, 1971 Rev. Joseph J. Gillen, pastor at Elora and the mission Church at Fergus, will be the new parish priest at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. He will succeed Father V.J. Morgan who is retiring as pastor of St. Joseph's Acton after more than 30 years of

service. The Free Press has once again won first prize as the best all round newspaper in its circulation.

Acton consumers can expect a "slight increase" in their hydro bills as a result of a new rate structure which goes into effect

November 1, this year. Last week's record rains on the Tuesday washed out driveways and caused havoc at the Ontario Housing Corporation development on Cobblehill Road. Some nearby residents were engulfed by the heaving mass of dirt.

20 years ago

August 17, 1961 The installation of artificial ice in Acton Arena moved one slep closer to realization Wednesday evening. At a special council meeting, the proposal of J.B. Mackenzie for the ice equipment building was accepted with minor reservations.

C. Alexander (Sandy) Best, M.P. for Halton, announced this morning (Thursday) that final purchase of two lots had been completed for a new \$90,000 Federal

Post Office in Acton. The old horse trough drinking fountain located at Main St. South is destined for a new location in the park, following a decision by Parks Board Tuesday. Mayor

John H. Goy enquired about the relocation of the trough drinking fountain and was told as soon as town workmen could find time the antique fountain used in horse and buggy days and enjoyed to this time only by Acton's only horse, Nell of Masales Dairy could be located in the park.

50 years ago

Thursday, August 20, 1931 Saturday night the last electric car from Guelph to Toronto passed over the line and it is now dead. There was quite a gathering at Acton station to wave farewell. There were 50 passengers on the last car, among them the editor of the Free Press. The first car passed through Acton on April 12, 1917.

The 15th annual exhibition of the Rockwood Horticultural Society last Saturday was well attended at the town hall. There were 372 entries.

Acton ladies were eliminated in the first round of the Western Ontario Lawn Tennis playoffs in Gueiph. Acton players were Miss Garden, Miss Kennedy, Miss Tyler and doubles Miss Brown and Miss Cowie, Miss Kennedy and Miss Garden.

A splendid new garage is under construction for Norton Motors at the corner of Mill and Wilbur Sts.

Lacrosse is making a start in Acton again there being a crowd of boys down practising last night. Everybody who has a stick be down at the park with it and let's get the old game going again.

75 years ago

August 16, 1906

The town fathers convened at one of their very frequent special meetings and out of the maze of municipal finances gathered together the estimates with a view to fixing the tax rate. The mill rate was struck at 19 mills. Then the matter of extending the new cement walk to the cemetery entrance was debated in a most undignified session. A petition signed by 130 citizens was presented by Mr. Harry Ross. Some of the petitioners could see nothing but their side of the question.

Mr. James McLam, one of our most highly esteemed residents, passed away of an acute affection of the stomach. He was blacksmith for Messrs. Beardmore and Co. As a lad he was apprenticed to the late Michael Speight, and later purchased his employer's business.

Mr. John Brown, engineer for Acton Tanning Co., has purchased the dwelling on Willow street belonging to the estate of the late John Eillott.

100 years ago

August 16, 1881 A small insert with the Free Press shows the chronology of the Kings of Judah and Israel, prepared by R. Little.

The road leading into Acton from the south is in almost impassable condition, with a number of bad holes between McPhee's property and Speight's

blacksmith shop. On Monday Mr. Wm. Scott cut nine acres of very heavy oats in five hours. Messrs. John McLean, Malcolm McDermid, Henry McMaster and George Smyth bound the oats, keeping up with the machine

throughout the whole time. A tramp who had been riding between two cars on the railway, fell off after the train left Rockwood, and was terribly injured. The train returned to Rockwood and the injured man was carried into Duffield's hotel and medical attendance was procured. An arm was amputated but a few minutes later the poor fellow succumbed to his injuries.

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Letters welcomed

Appreciates program

Letters to the editor are welcomed, but they must be signed and the phone number of the writer included.

The phone number won't be published, and if requested the name

won't be either. However, the paper must know the identity of the writer. Letters are edited for libel and slander and should be kept as brief as