

# The Acton Free Press

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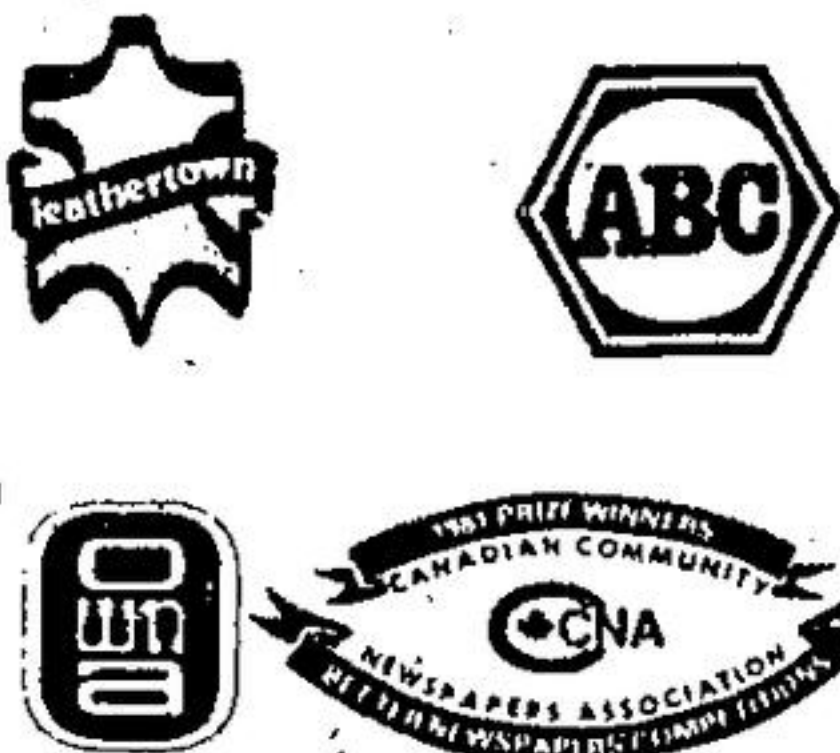
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## Congratulate cancer workers on independence

We'd like to offer our congratulations to the executive and volunteers of the new independent Acton Unit of the Canadian Cancer Society.

A lot of work by a lot of people went into achieving this feat of independence from the Georgetown unit.

Cancer workers here have an enviable record of 25 years service to the community.

Acton deserves to have an independent unit not just because of the efforts of cancer volunteers, but also the generosity of the entire community.

The Cancer unit is the second

local charity to achieve its independence from Georgetown's organization this year. Last January the Red Cross struck out on its own and there has been no drop in the levels of service or efficiency.

It's interesting to note that eight years after Acton lost its political identity and became part of Halton Hills with Georgetown and Esquesing, some local organizations long amalgamated with Georgetown are now deemed strong and mature enough to be independent.

## Clergy Comment

by Rev. John Robertson

I want to share with you a wilderness experience I went through in the early summer.

In fact ill-health forced me to opt for an early retirement from the Ministry.

If you know what it is to have a pain that is unrelenting; if you have had your marriage partner choose another and leave you; if your dream to build a family becomes fractured and fragmented; if you have been numbed by grief; if you have seen your business hopes utterly smashed; if you have had emotional problems—then, you know what it means to wander in the wilderness.

So often the wilderness is the scene of man's encounter with God. I want to tell you how I found the way out.

First of all I had to call for help. Watching the "Hour of Power" one Sunday morning I heard Robert Schuller say that one has to yell blue murder, if need be, if help is to come.

He told the story of Helen Hayes. Things were going well for her. She was a successful actress. She chose her plays, determined the parts; everything fell into line.

Then, her daughter Mary died. She was in despair. She struggled trying to get back to God and the problem was that she couldn't make it happen with God as she could with the world.

One night, restless and sleepless, she turned on the light and in

desperation turned to the Psalms, "I waited patiently for the Lord; and He inclined unto me, and heard my cry". She read and reread it and life changed for her.

She had cried for help and the cry was answered. So was mine. This upset was to set me up. A new direction was given to my life.

Then I discovered I had to keep the Faith. I couldn't run away.

In the wilderness, life may seem senseless and the temptation is to throw away our faith, turn away from the Church, worship, the Sacraments and from those who can encourage you and surround you with understanding love. Your friends can go off and say they don't want to be your friends anymore. But Christians cannot go off and say they disown you.

I made one of the momentous discoveries of my life to find myself surrounded with the encouragement and understanding of my Session and people both inside and outside my congregation. Keep the faith. Do not turn away from those who are touched by the Spirit of Jesus Christ and who can bring healing to you.

And don't forget to pray. That simply means keeping the connection alive. If God is in your wilderness experience with you, and the Incarnation of Jesus Christ means that He certainly is, then recognize it, affirm it, pray, speak with Him.

I found out through prayer that no night is endless—the light is never far.



## On the Leavell



With Helen

shepherd was tied. The police later confirmed the rope had been cut. A next door neighbor heard noise in the back, and when he went to investigate he saw some children in the neighbor's yard. It wasn't until hours later, when the Lambers returned home, that it was discovered the dog was missing.

A week later a man visited the Lambert's and said they had found the canine wandering around. It had no collar or tags. But Leather knew he was home and dashed into the arms of his owner.

Why was Leather untied in the first place? Was he the object of a theft, or prank, or did someone feel sorry because the poor dog was tied up? Whatever the reason, whoever untied him was violating the law, and butting in where his business was not needed or wanted.

Some folks say it is inhumane to tie a dog up. Well, I strongly believe it is inhumane to see a dog dead on the side of the road, hit by a car while wandering about. I think it is inhumane to see a farmer's sheep maulled by a pack of dogs, yes, pets at that. I think it is inhumane when a child must endure painful rabies shots because an animal he came in contact with, might have had rabies.

I cringe when I see a dog at the side of the road. I know how I would feel if it was my pet lying there lifeless.

So kids, or whoever let Leather go, don't do the dog any favors, you could be killing him!

The first ever Spensers' Luncheon is being held next Thursday October 15 at Acton Meadows Golf Club, thanks to the Acton Chamber of Commerce. Gordon Stovel C.I.U., a financial planning expert will be speaking about taxes, inflation, and business continually. The luncheon starts at noon, meals are available at the club. No pre-registration is necessary, and all are welcome.

The disabled are certainly getting busy on Sunday. Handicapped swimming is Sunday morning, and now a special ceramics class is being held at the Acton Y.

Madaline Jackson, of Milton, is donating her time each Sunday for ten weeks for the disabled, and senior citizens to learn ceramics. There is no fee, and 10 in a class is ideal. The program will run from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. For further information, contact Eileen Dix at the Y.

Eileen also reports there are still openings in many other Y courses.

My father, Ben Leavell, got his picture in the Collingwood newspaper last week with the Legion executive up there. He's the secretary. Also in the picture is director Trueman McEachern, cousin of Will McEachern of Acton.

## MEANDERINGS by Mabel Barkman Gift Wrap

One day, a friend of mine brought me a bread and butter gift when she arrived for lunch.

I remarked how beautiful the wrapping paper was and she said she hardly ever bought wrapping paper any more because it was so expensive. She said that she looks through magazines and newspapers and whenever she sees a page that is brightly colored she saves it. Then when she has a present to wrap, she uses some of the pages. I have decided to use this method and for children I will use the comics.

If the paper comes off in one place, the child can even read the comics!

## CHAFTY IDEAS by Joan Williamson Biscuits and pieces

Everyone who does handi-crafts shares a common problem - what do you do with those bits and pieces that are not quite small enough to throw out and not quite big enough to use.

If you sew, and like to make quilts, cushions and other items that can be done in a crazy quilt pattern, you're all set. Simply blend your colors and produce a length of crazy quilt material to use. If you knit, small scraps can be used up in the same way, resulting in some wonderfully wild random patterns, or in a new set of doll's clothes. Crocheters have the same solution at the end of their hooks.

But what do you do with the bits of felt, ribbon and leather that you find left over? With the price of these items rising daily, it really pains me to throw out what may be a perfectly useful piece of material. Here are three ideas for small items which can use up the scraps and provide bazaar items and stocking stuffers or children's projects.

Corner Book Mark: This is a variation on the conventional book mark. Take a three inch square of felt or leather. Cut the square in half on a diagonal (from corner to corner). Sew the two pieces together with a very narrow seam, leaving the diagonal side open. Trim the seam edges with pinking shears if you wish. Glue on a design using an initial or flower pattern.

Miss Mary E. MacPherson, Miss Alice McPherson and Mrs. G. Dills and family visited in Toronto on Sunday.

## 75 years ago

The members of Acton Lodge IOOF No. 204 naturally feel elated and gratified with the success of their effort to make a good appearance and had as large a presentation as possible on the occasion of the great demonstration in Toronto a couple of weeks ago under the auspices of the Sovereign Grand Lodge. Among the scores of lodges which entered the competition for largest ratio of representation and best general appearance Acton Lodge won second prize.

Mr. Alex Bell is adding a planing mill to his saw mill outfit on Main St. It is a cement block building 26x30 and the walls are already well advanced. Surface planing, etc. will be turned out by this new department.

## 100 years ago

On Monday last Mr. A.O. Wheeler met with an accident which resulted in a fractured leg. He was loading telegraph poles at the GTR depot and a pile of poles at which he was working overturned, and falling upon himself broke his leg.

Mr. William Swackhamer's new brick house on Young St. is almost complete.

We are informed that while visiting friends near Port Hope Mr. R.R. Rae, GTR Agent of this village had the misfortune to break his arm. No particulars.

Those merchants who fail to do their advertising now will have plenty of time to do their moose hunting.

We are happy to say that Mr. Benj. Hemstreet, who was so badly injured by being upset from his buggy two weeks ago has so far recovered that he can walk down the street.

## Our readers write Leathertown inaugural meeting open to public

Dear Citizen of Acton:

The Leathertown Association, an independent, non-profit, community organization, has replaced the Leathertown Committee launched seven months ago by the Chamber of Commerce. The new body's goal is to represent the entire community and not benefit any specific groups or businesses.

Leathertown aims to increase local awareness and appreciation of Acton's heritage; foster a more positive attitude about Acton; and bolster this town's sense of identity. We are creating a tourist image, to strengthen the economic base of the entire community.

Efforts by both Leathertown organizers and local citizens have given this project a strong foundation on which to build. There is growing public recognition, acceptance and support for the Leathertown campaign.

Work has already begun on a number of new projects. These projects include a Leathertown fashion show later this month; a Wintario draw tentatively scheduled for November 28,

Leathertown signs for the four entrances to Acton; development of displays for the recently mapped out walking tour of Acton; brochures for use by tourists coming here as well as for distribution to tourist centres across Ontario; and a big Leathertown Days celebration next May 14, 15 and 16 featuring a Monte Carlo night, high school reunion, street dances and many other activities.

Membership in Leathertown is like your vote, you'll get more out of it if you exercise your franchise and participate.

Sincerely,  
Chip Petrillo  
Leathertown Chairman

We are inviting you to the inaugural meeting of the Leathertown Association Thursday, October 8, at M.Z. Bennett School, at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. A slate of officers for the association board of directors will be presented at that time along with details about both long and short term Leathertown projects. Refreshments will be served.

## Thanks mayor, worksdept. for Lakeview Phase II

The following letter was filed with the Free Press for publication.

Mr. P. Pomeroy,  
Mayor,  
Town of Halton Hills,  
Georgetown, Ontario.  
Dear Pete:

The Town Councilors often receive calls or letters about complaints, but the purpose of this letter is to congratulate the members of Council and the Public Works staff for the manner in which Phase II of the reconstruction of the streets in Lakeview was completed.

Graham Construction of Brampton, Ontario, provided adequate equipment

and knowledgeable workmen who completed this contract in less than two months with every consideration to reasonable concerns of the local citizens.

Mr. Mayor please convey our sincere thanks to the members of Council and Mr. Robert Austin and his staff at Public Works. We all look forward to the completion of Phase III when the subdivision will be properly serviced... something that should have been done when the area was first developed.

Yours very truly,  
G.W. "Pat" McKenzie.

## Birthday greetings go out to Arlie White who marked 75 years last Wednesday.

Arlie, president of the newly formed Acton unit of the Canadian Cancer Society, was presented with a birthday cake the evening before at the Unit's charter meeting.

At that meeting Arlie apologized for not being able to speak as well as the "well educated" guests at the special meeting party. However, no apology was necessary as the words that come from the heart are better than the words that come from a dictionary.

Halton Hills Councillor Mike Armstrong won the steer hide rug in a draw to raise funds for ActiVan. It was Esquesing councillor Pam Sheldon who pointed out that the winning ticket was sold by Councillor Marilyn Serjeantson, drawn by Councillor Walter Blehn, won by Councillor Armstrong, and supposedly worn by Councillor Russ Miller (who is a little shy of hair).

The Friends-in-Deed played a big part in the draw.

My personal congratulations to the five Acton volunteer firefighters who received 25 year plaques from the town Monday evening, for long service to the department. Doug Mason, Phil McCristal, Norm Price, Don Van Fleet, and John Krapek were all recognized.

Firefighters are as crazy as reporters—standing out in the cold at a fire scene, or in the pouring rain. I guess it is dedication to the job.

Of all the fires I covered, the most memorable one was a house fire in Nassagaweya. It was bitterly cold, and the fire was in between the walls of the house—no flames, just danger. After hours of standing in the cold—in a very short skirt and ski jacket, (it was many years ago), my legs went numb and I began to think how senseless it was waiting to get a picture of a house collapsing. (A terrific journalistic opportunity for the newest on staff.)

However, I was too cold to walk back to my car. But in fine firefighter tradition I was saved. I was invited to sit in the firetruck cab, with the motor and heater running.

Once I thawed out I took a few quick pictures and went back to my car to head back to the office. However, I promptly got lost on the back roads of the township, and my gas tank was on empty. I sputtered and sputtered back to town eventually, but somehow my enthusiastic eagerness to be a dedicated reporter had waned somewhat. I have since learned to always have a pair of slacks in my car, but the situation has never cropped up again.

Congratulations men! And thanks for helping the town get a better sleep at night.

What could have been a tragic story turned out to have a happy ending—this time, when Shawn Lambert's stolen dog, Leather, was returned.

One Sunday night someone entered the Lambert's back yard on Guelph Street and cut the rope on which their