

The Acton Free Press

TELEPHONE (519) 853-2010
Business and Editorial Office

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Don McDonald, Publisher

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BUSINESS/ACCOUNTING OFFICE
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CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT

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Glad Sprackman dropped industrial park objection

In the past we have been pretty harsh in our criticism of developer Jerry Sprackman and his Landawn Shopping Centres' tactic of objecting to rezonings in Acton.

We have stated that while Sprackman says he is only trying to meet the wishes of local shoppers by proposing to build a plaza on the east side of Acton his objections to the Ontario Municipal Board have held up important commercial and industrial development proposals.

In fairness we must now pat Sprackman on the back for dropping his objection to rezoning of some agricultural land north-east of the railway tracks on Highway 25 for an industrial park. We find his move now a little puzzling and do wish he had dropped the objection long ago, but the action is appreciated.

When he objected to the IGA plaza rezoning it was later dropped after the two sides reached a mutual no-objection agreement.

Now high interest rates have delayed the start of this project. It's hard to say if Sprackman's objection has played a hand in this delay, but interest rates were much lower in the spring when he appealed the rezoning to the OMB than they are now.

In the case of the industrial park plan proposed by Alteo Construction we felt Sprackman had no valid objection since most of the project is within the urban (servicing water and sewers), boundary while his plaza site is outside the boundary. The industrial park was entitled to urban services, the plaza wasn't, so how

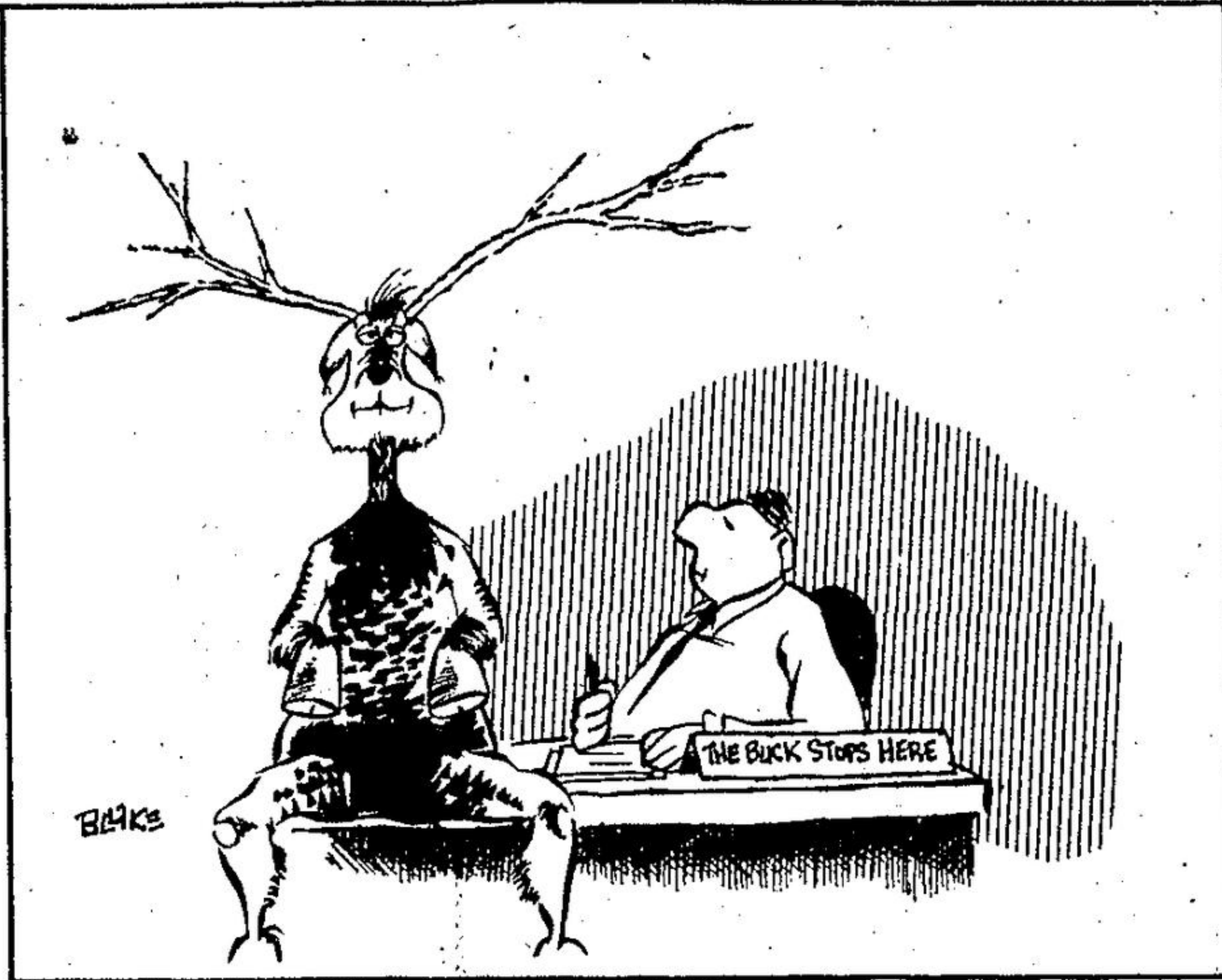
could it impact on Sprackman's proposal.

Also we felt industrial development is so paramount in this community that nothing should delay the rezoning.

While we are glad to see Sprackman has dropped his objections to other developments in town and hope the issue of either his original proposal, sent to the OMB for a hearing, or his smaller plaza plan in a state of limbo since it was presented in the spring, is settled soon, we are still opposed to commercial development on the outskirts of Acton until either there is considerable redevelopment of the downtown core or Acton's population grows substantially.

The current downtown redevelopment study appears costly and impractical in many, many ways, so we must confess disappointment. However, we still feel there are enough progressive businessmen downtown that some form of redevelopment will take place in the next few years, especially as Leathertown fulfills its tremendous promise as a means of bringing new business to Acton as well as tourists to bolster local sales and encourage redevelopment by existing firms.

After downtown redevelopment has been given a fair chance to either flourish or be abandoned because of lack of sincere commitment on the part of merchants, or if new technology in sewage treatment permits considerably more growth here, then a new plaza on the east side of town, or in fact anywhere around Acton, would likely be a very welcomed development.



On the Leavell

With Helan

Sympathy of the community is extended to families of two former Acton residents who died last week, both of whom lived out west.

Louise Main of Edmonton, Alberta died October 6 in Cardston, Alberta, at the age of 59 years. She and husband Pop Main moved from Acton just a year ago. Pop is well known in town for his work in the Optimist Club and minor baseball.

Aud on October 5, Abram John Thomas of Vancouver British Columbia died, at the age of 107. He moved from the Fourth Line of Erin Township years ago but still has friends here. He was a member of Church Hill Church and is fondly remembered by many in the area.

Janice Withers is the lucky winner of the Eastern Star Cardinal Chapter 321 draw for a lucky quilt. Past Grand Patron Mervin Booth drew the lucky ticket, and Lucille Cooksley, convener of the draw informed Mrs. Withers of her winnings.

The second meeting of the North Halton Hospice Care Interest Group is offering a second community Education Forum in Glen Williams Town Hall on Thursday, October 22.

The Community Resources for Care and Bereavement is the theme with Jim Jones, funeral director of a Georgetown, Funeral Home, and Donna Groters, a

registered nurse with Beta Health Care Services, Oakville as guest speakers.

Friends of Schizophrenics, a support group for friends and family of people with schizophrenic illness, is holding its first meeting at Homewood Sanitarium, Guelph at 8 p.m. Tuesday. Anyone from the Acton area who could benefit from this group is welcome to attend.

Wedding anniversary greetings go out to Gordon and Jean Johnston, of R.R. 3 Acton who marked 50 years of marriage on Saturday. The many friends and relatives who attended an open house in their honor were indicative of the couple's popularity.

The three sons of Elly and Dave McIntyre recently made the McMaster University newspaper Silhouette. The triplets, born in September 1979, had a picture of them being held by their nurse shortly after their birth, reprinted in the newspaper. They were not identified. The paper did a full page story and pictures about some of the more extraordinary accomplishments in the history of the teaching facility and naturally included two-year old Derrek, Phillip and Brian.

Don't forget the Chamber of Commerce Speaker's Luncheon at Acton Meadows Golf Course this Thursday (tomorrow) at noon.

Gordon F. Stovel GLU will be the guest speaker. Stovel started in the insurance business in 1966, and is a four times qualifier for million dollar Round Table International Organization representing the top two per cent of Life Insurance Industries Professionals. He has completed extensive studies in the fields of estate and tax planning, founded the Advanced Financial Planning Corporation in 1980 and is currently president. Through a management contract he is responsible for all marketing activities of the Great West Life in Peel, Halton and Caledon

regions, and had a Bachelor of Science and a Bachelor of Arts degrees, majoring in marketing and corporate finance. Stovel is a past president of the Brampton-Mississauga Life Underwriters Association, is a member of the board of trustees for Charter Life Underwriters of Canada and is an active member of the Mississauga Rotary Club.

No pre-registration is necessary and all are welcome.

This nice fall weather we have been having lately makes one hesitate to think about Christmas, but nevertheless, here it is—The Acton Beautification Committee (ABC) will be judging decorative homes on the weekend of December 19. They will be looking for the most creative design or display expressing the Christmas spirit. More information is promised at a later date.

MEANDERINGS by Mabel Barkman Water

Most people think water is water but a housewife soon realizes there is a difference.

Soft water is a "no-no" for watering houseplants but it is excellent for making dill pickles. Pasta cooked in soft water becomes sticky and so does rice. Yeast does not rise as well in soft water although a vitamin C tablet dissolved in the water helps a lot.

One uses less tea and coffee when using soft water but I think I prefer the beverages made with hard water. Washing clothes and hair is, of course, excellent with soft water. For drinking purposes hard water is supposed to be the best but when the water contains a great deal of iron and other minerals, one begins to wonder. Peter the Great of Russia died from kidney problems and he drank the waters from various health spas in the belief that they were good for him. Perhaps the best idea is to alternate hard and soft water for drinking.

Our readers write

Hunt opposition angered

Dear Sir: Congratulations! to the Ministry of Natural Resources, for successfully "pulling a fast one" on the Halton Regional Council, The Planning and Public Works Committee, the Hunt Opposition, and the Halton residents, by extending the 1981 Hunt season.

The MNR will as well be delighted to receive \$15 per resident hunter, and \$80 per non-resident hunter, for this year's hunting licences. Also, it will be agreeable for them to receive their revenue from the excise tax on sporting goods as a result of the 1981 Halton Hunt.

Hunters in addition, must be very anxious to lead their standard or cross-bows for a 56 day period. Not to mention, their retrieval of muzzle loading rifles or shotguns. This extra workout represents a 33 per cent increase of hunting hours for the shotgun season. We sincerely hope that in the event of this "arbitrarily" extended season, the hunter stops at his one deer quota.

We also find it interesting that the large apple orchardists have had a relatively successful season. We wonder how they had any harvest at all, as the deer have routinely "devastated" young saplings with damages up to \$20,000. Yet, as revealed at the June 24 meeting, there has never been a registered and authorized investigation into these claims.

Sympathy lies more with the smaller fruit and vegetable grower, who do show signs of obvious ruin. Please remember though that geese and racoons do as much or more damage to some crops than do deer.

Gary Tubling states that he wants to standardize hunting seasons in Ontario that is fine, but, Halton does not compare with the isolation of Northern Ontario. This way of thinking is exemplified in the Hunters Handbook Part I, distributed by the MNR: "familiarize yourself with the territory for at least three miles in every direction from your permanent camp before the hunt." "If you do get lost, don't panic. Build a shelter in case you have to spend the night."

We should all be so lucky as to own 36 square miles of "Last Frontier" land in Halton Region. The survival techniques as mentioned, depict hunting where the wilderness and hunting talents are at

par challenge. Hunters of Halton you know that you have the advantage, and that your expertise is not being exercised to its best potential.

In reflection on our Opposition to the 1981 hunt, concerns of Halton residents were slightly stirred, as 800 plus people signed in opposition, over a brief period of time. Some of you may regard us as a "pain in the neck", but, it is "our God-given right" to voice our opinions and protect "our" wildlife and fellow residents. We were game to listen to any anti-arguments on this topical and controversial subject on June 24. In doing so, the Pro-Hunt force gave us a great deal of wisdom, and it united the Opposition. Thank you.

We are not accepting defeat, nor will we remain silent. In fact, as of our meetings October 3 and 9 we can safely say that there is literally no hunting in North-West Halton, and difficulty in available property in North East Halton. Hence, that eliminates 35-40 per cent of Halton.

Some communities have "had enough" of the MNR administration designating their area as a hunt local. The town of Caledon for example, passed a by-law to "prohibit and regulate the discharge of guns". This change has put a better perspective on hunting in rural areas.

The Hunt Opposition has made, and will provide free of charge No Hunting signs, if you so choose to post your property, whether you have 1/2 to 100 acres. We have asked this paper if they could allow us to leave some signs for your convenience. Feel free to pick up a sign for protection and protest.

The Deer Hunt Opposition, Bill Johnson, Pauline Martland, Bruce Kilmer, John Mitchell, Debbie Kilmer, Paul Mitchell, Archie Brown, Brigitte Zamitt, Barb Zamitt, Alison Brown.

Editor's Note: By making no hunting signs available at the Acton Free Press this in no way means this newspaper is supporting the Deer Hunt Opposition group. We feel both sides in this dispute have made valid points and those wishing to permit the hunt on their land or those not wanting hunting on their property both have the right to state their opinions and take the appropriate action. The signs are available to the public only as a convenience to readers.



Outdoors

BY LORNE FLETCHER

Salmon are running in the Bronte Creek with large schools of Chinooks up as far as the Appleby Line. Should be no trouble to hook one of these huge fish but plenty of trouble to land one.

It seems that a plain old marsh-mallow on a sliding sinker rig is the best bait. Use a sturdy rod, reel, line, as these fish can sure bust up tackle. This is the most productive fishing time of the year in Ontario so take a child fishing.

Residents interest in outdoor sports is alive and thriving in the Acton area.

I have received many comments and information about Fairy Lake restocking programs.

Local resident Herb Dodds has supplied some of the most positive information plus some excellent



photos to back it up. It seems that Herb at that time was a deputy game warden with the then Department of Lands and Forest. Also shown is a good picture of the late Dudley Hitchcock head warden of this area for many years. This stocking of Pike was on May 6, 1951.

According to information received

from George Holmes Main St., Acton at least 50 large Pike and two Muskeg were stocked at that date. Bass were introduced to the area at a much earlier date by a private citizen Col. Torrence Beardmore who was also an avid fisherman. The Col. would open the lake to the public for a few days every year.

Back issues

10 years ago

October 13, 1971

Married 69 years last Friday Mr. and Mrs. William Mino of Eden Mills received congratulations from many friends and neighbors.

The mysterious July 10 death of 32-year-old Roger Joseph Lapointe an Acton area farmer was caused by a self-inflicted .22 calibre bullet wound in the head, a coroner's jury decided in Milton Tuesday. Acton firefighters recovered Lapointe's body from the burning Spanish-style bungalow he rented on Highway 25 south of Acton sometime after 5 a.m. the morning of July 10. It was later revealed Lapointe died as the result of a bullet wound in the head.

Mr. Ron Henry and Mr. Joe Petrie were home from Queen's University for the Thanksgiving weekend.

20 years ago

October 12, 1961

Corn Leishman, caretaker of the Federal Post Office in Acton, had 25 years of service recognized Wednesday October 4, when Donald Telfer, district supervisor for the Public Works Department of Ontario presented him with a 25-year pin. Mr. Leishman is the seventh public works employee in Ontario to receive the award.

Two moose and a black bear were bagged by Acton hunting party of five last week when they invaded the forests of Chapleau for a week. William (Bill) Sheppard, sons Doug and Mel of Acton, and Jim Forbes of Georgetown and Bill Holt, of King, braved the cold weather and returned home with approximately 2,350 lbs. of moose and bear meat.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Otterbain enjoyed Thanksgiving weekend at their cottage on Lake Muskoka.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Krapek, Jimmie and Jennifer spent Thanksgiving weekend with the former's parents in Huntsville.

50 years ago

October 15, 1931

Mr. Frank Holloway, who has been the courteous teller at the Bank of Montreal for the past year or so has been promoted to the bank at Guelph, where he will be receiving teller. Mr. Corley of Meaford is now filling the vacancy on the staff here caused by his removal.

Mr. and Mrs. William Stuckey, of Acton, were severely bruised and badly shaken up in a car accident on Friday about three miles from Fergus. The accident was due to the slippery road condition of the pavement.

A couple of Acton aged residents suffered a serious fall on Wednesday of last week when Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Holmes fell downstairs on their home on Bower Ave. Mrs. Holmes was assisting Mr. Holmes upstairs when he fell backward and both were thrown to the bottom of the stairs.

75 years ago

October 11, 1906

The outbuilding of Chas. Campbell together with the season's crops and implements were consumed by fire last Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Campbell was blasting stone near the barn and it is supposed the high wind which was blowing at the time carried the burning fuse onto the roof. We understand Mr. Campbell carried no insurance.

Typhoid fever is prevailing in many towns in the province. It is a cause for gratitude that Acton has not had a single case, nor has had it for some time.

Mr. E.B. Swackhamer, the enterprising men's outfitter, is first in the field with a very pretty calendar for the year, commencing October 1. It is an artistic panel of the Gibson girl type.

100 years ago

October 13, 1881

Look out for cold weather. Leaves, nuts and temperatures are falling.

The days are getting dark and dreary. There was quite a little snow storm here on Monday but the bright rays of the sun soon caused "the beautiful" to disappear. A few loads of short wood are wanted at this office. Those who wish to pay for their paper in wood should bring it in at once.

Acton Brass Band have given a most creditable account of themselves again this week winning First Prize and \$25 in cash in the Band Competition at the County Show held in Milton yesterday.

Mr. Alex White, vice-president of Halton County Agricultural Society has won ten prizes and over \$100 on his Lincoln and Leicester sheep.

Mr. R.R. Rae, G.T.R. Agent, who had his arm broken while visiting friends near Newcastle, returned home Friday evening.

Are you satisfied with the site chosen for the new town hall? If not, why not?