

# The Acton Free Press

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## Disabled parking laws simple and logical

Local businessman Lorne Doberthien's ideas for helping the handicapped attend major Ontario attractions like Ontario Place and the CNE are so simple and logical that it is hard to believe they weren't implemented long ago.

Doberthien himself is handicapped, he lost a leg a few years ago to bone cancer. As he says, rarely does the handicap hinder him, but when he goes to big attractions like the Ex, or shopping at a major mall, it does present problems. He needs to park close to the entrance.

He has called for the provincial and federal governments to come up with a card or decal for a car which the handicapped can use to get into parking close to stores in malls or at places like Ontario Place and the CNE. This would mean they wouldn't have to describe their problem to often unsensitive parking attendants.

In addition he has urged all major attractions and shopping centres be required to provide parking places close to entrances for the disabled.

Where handicapped parking is provided now and will be required in the future he wants the police empowered to make sure only the handicapped use those parking places. He is correct when he says it isn't

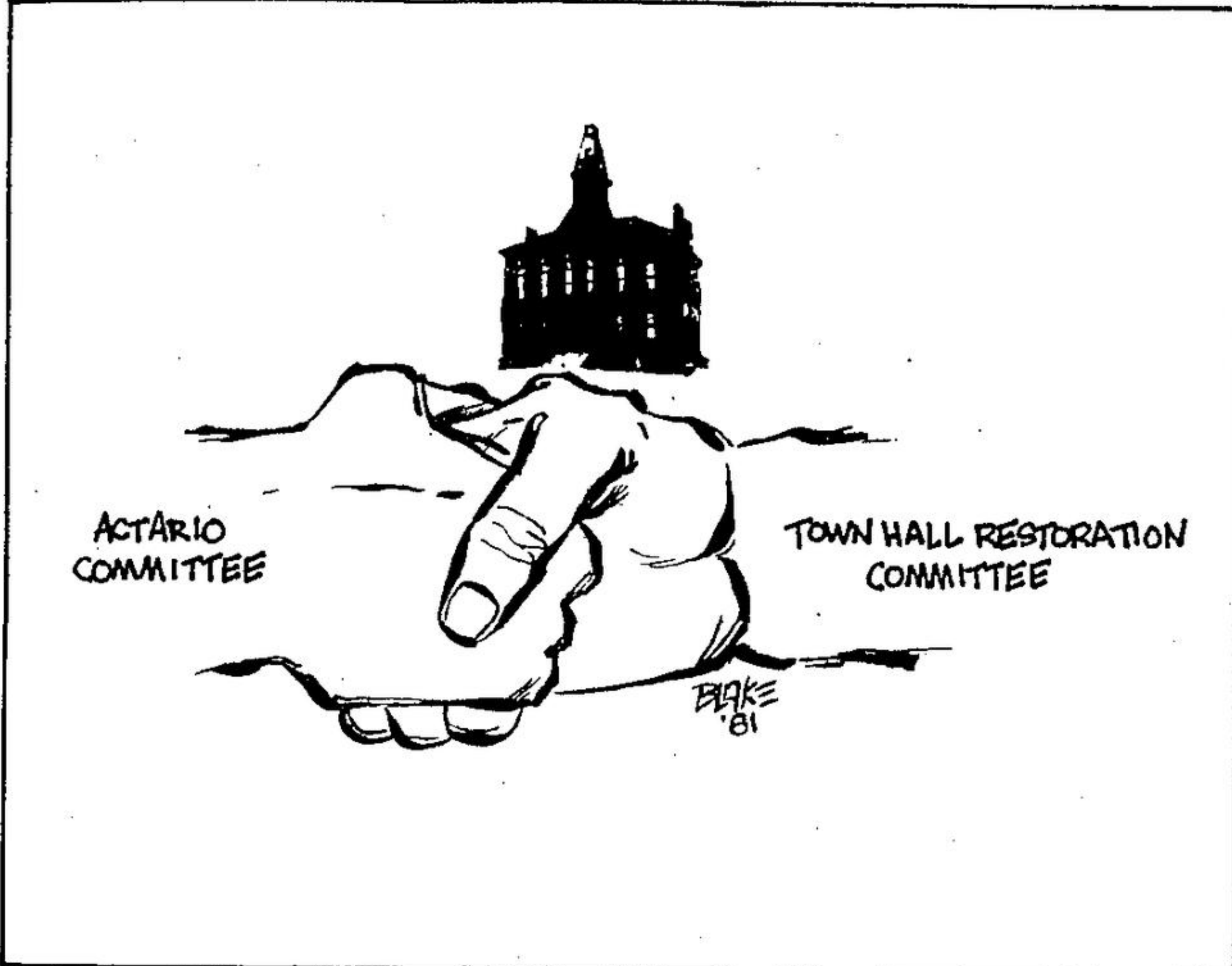
uncommon to see people with no disability parking in spots reserved for the handicapped to save themselves a few steps. Tickets and stiff fines would cure that problem quickly.

If laws can be passed in England and the United States to make life easier for the handicapped there's no reason the same can't be done here.

Doberthien has taken his case to the media, political leaders at both the federal and provincial levels of government and local MPP Julian Reed has promised to run with the ball and bring the matter to the floor of the Legislature when his turn to introduce a private members bill comes around.

Unfortunately Reed might not be able to bring in a measure written so everyone must support it before the end of this year, the Year of the Disabled.

If Ottawa and Queen's Park are really sincere in their stated concerns this year for the handicapped they'll read the letter Doberthien has sent out and bring in legislation governing a handicapped card system; requirements for parking for handicapped at all major shopping and recreation facilities; and laws to prevent people who aren't disabled from parking in handicapped reserved spots very, very quickly.



## On the Leavell

With Helen

Visiting in the Acton area recently was Mrs. Tom Shields, (Lorraine) of Hillsborough, North Carolina. With her was Mrs. Bill Shields of Raleigh, North Carolina.

From 1959 until it was sold Tom Shields managed Disston Saw in Acton. They lived on a farm next to Acton Meadows Golf Course. After school Todd Shields taught music and turned pianos for Mr. Watson. Jeff was the athlete and played soccer and hockey in Acton. He is now completing his degree in physical education. Tim is in high school in Hillsborough. Their mother Lorraine is well known in Acton and was active in the community, Trinity United Church and the E.C. Drury School in Milton.

Visiting with Mary and Pat McKenzie for the Thanksgiving holiday were Mr. and Mrs. Walter Trysenaar (Kathryn), Ryan and Lindsey of Listowel, Ontario.

The first draw of the 500 Club was made this weekend. \$50 winners were: 464 B.J. Legate; and 465 Pete Van Dam.

Well known Acton area Karen Hillman, and her husband Alan Millson held the grand opening of their new business The Woodbee recently. People came from as far away as France and England, and some made special trips from all over southern Ontario. Some 200 people turned out, which is hopefully an indication of things to come.

Local entrepreneur Ted Tyler has further branched out. Now in addition to the travel and transport business, Ted is in the husbandry business raising a litter of puppies.

Ted states (with some exasperation) that about eight weeks ago a stray dog made a home under an abandoned car at the back of his Highway 7 property. No sooner had the canine bedded down, but she gave birth to 10 (count 'em 10)

puppies. Ted, his staff and neighbors have sort of accepted responsibility for the pups.

Now, eight weeks later, all but three puppies have been given away (one went to the Tyler family). Ted is willing to give the cute little critters to a good home, but it must be a parent who picks up the animal. He has heard almost every story, excuse and outright lie from youngsters in order to be given a puppy, but Ted wants to speak to a parent. He wants to make sure the dogs go to a good home, and are welcomed.

He says they are very well behaved, extremely cute and loveable, but he can't figure out what mixture they are. They come in all shapes and sizes, colors and personalities.

Anyone interested in having one of the few remaining pups is welcome to call Ted or drop in to Tyler Travel and see them for yourself.

Soap opera fans from all over the area will be flocking to Stone Road Mall this Saturday to see John McCafferty, who plays Billie Joe Wright, and Caryn Richman, who plays Elena Dekker in the soap opera "Texas".

It's John's second trip to the mall in a little over a month. He dropped by for the Marathon of Hope Charity Auction September 12 and raised over \$2,000 in Terry Fox's memory.

John and Caryn will be on hand to answer questions and sign autographs for everyone who missed them before.

In the small world department. Hubby Gord returned Sunday from a week's vacation to Washington D.C. and other American spots. It seemed like he barely got on the road when he had lunch with an Acton couple in Cooperstown New York.

Gord was enjoying the Baseball Hall of Fame, when he spotted his predecessor, former Free Press editor Hartley Coles and wife Irma, also viewing the exhibits. The trio browsed for a while and then lunched in a nearby restaurant.

Gord also visited Gloversville, New York, which has a Leathertown theme. His visit proved to be very informative.

And speaking of Gord, he joined a new club on Sunday—the 30s set. He shares his big day with our infamous Prime Minister, Pierre Trudeau, who turned a little more than 30.

You can always tell Christmas is coming when the Acton Arts and Crafts

club holds their annual exhibition and sale.

This year work available will be hand weaving, leather work, quilting, greeting cards, ceramics, lace draped porcelain figurines, etc. by Jean Denny, Florence Wilkin, Del Howse, Irene Holmes, Judi Shannon and Laura Dittich.

So mark October 31 on your calendar (it's probably already marked by someone much younger than yourself). St. Alban's Parish Hall doors open at 10 a.m.

While the Acton High School is currently gathering items to put in a time capsule, Marj Thornton thinks a 100-year-old form of capsule was recently discovered in one of the walls of her Willow St. S. home.

Marj explains that Pete Turkosz had been contracted to tear down a wall between the bedroom and living room. While working he found a large chunk of a newspaper dated February 11, 1859. The word "Globe" can be made out. Indicating it might be part of an old Globe and Mail. It also says Canada West on it. The paper has been chewed by mice.

Also found in the same wall were two shoes, both different sizes, and both the high black boot-like footwear, and one very narrow white glove, too small for a regular hand.

Marj, owner of Emily's Natural Foods, says she thinks the items may have been put there deliberately which would explain the two sizes instead of a pair. All the items have been chewed beyond any historical value.

The wall also held the skull of an animal, but the Thornton's aren't sure exactly what kind. Marj says it is too big to be a mouse, rat or even cat. She hopes to send it to the University of Guelph to have it verified.

Fairy Lake bird watchers will have noticed two new arrivals to local waters recently.

Two black swans arrived this week from Guelph's Kortwright Waterfowl Park, part of a trade. Kortwright got three mute white swans as their part of the deal, says arena manager Harold Townsley.

Harold says it will be three years before the black swans are old enough to breed, but if all goes well, Fairy Lake could soon have both black and white swans swimming around.

MEANDERINGS

by Mabel Barkman  
Trick and Treat

The trick is to bake the pumpkin in the oven when preparing for pies or the freezer. Just cut in several large pieces, scrape out seeds and place skin side up on a cookie tin lined with foil. Take out of oven, cool a bit and scrape all the pumpkin off the skin. Pack in containers holding a good one and half cups such as margarine tubs and put in freezer. In this way you have exactly enough for one pie.

Now for the treat. Make yourself an instant pumpkin pie. Put in a bowl a package of instant butterscotch pudding powder, add a pinch of salt, a teaspoon of ginger and a half teaspoon each of nutmeg and cinnamon. Add a cup and a half of milk, and the same for pumpkin. Put in a baked pie shell after mixing well and then put in the fridge for awhile. Add whipped cream when serving and I'm sure you will enjoy this pie. Perhaps you should add a little brown sugar if not sweet enough. The Jack 'O Lantern may come to use this year!

## Our readers write

### Mother offers thoughts on son cut from hockey team

Dear Editor:

There was a poem I think all grown-ups should read. It comes from a young boy who once played hockey at the Crosby Memorial Arena in Unionville, Ontario, but it could also be made over to fit any walk of life.

"What kind of so called 'grown-ups' are those who choose to thrust such mean and angry words of hate on little guys like us.

We skate so hard to make that goal as we are told to do. But folks yell, "Get him, Kill that kid," And often start to boo.

We're told it's sport, not win or lose, But how we play the game. If adults want to teach what's right, Why don't they do the same?

So, moms and dads, I ask you please Leave anger at the door, And fill the rink with BROTHERHOOD That's really what it's for.

This poem recently came to my mind as I was sitting thinking about a young 11-year-old boy who just received to him a large disappointment in his life. The way the bad news was given to him is not the way I would have chosen it to have reached his ears, but unfortunately as parents we are not always around to protect our children the way we would like to.

My son is a good hockey player. He has several trophies to prove this. We recently moved to Acton from a much larger city, and when I mentioned that my son was going to try out for the "All Star" team, many of the nice people that I had met through minor ball told me that it was a waste of time. This is not entirely so. My son had extra ice time, extra coaching, and good workouts. As far as making "the team" one of the other goals I felt was better.

I have known for quite some time that in most places that it is not what you know, or in some cases your ability, but who you know, and now unfortunately so does my son.

I never really gave this much thought until today. Thinking about my son I was getting really mad, but then the madness wore away to sympathy. I feel nothing but sorrow for those who can sit and cheer on one boy and in the next minute let a boy play with no encouragement as was the case with my boy during an exhibition game. And whatever happened to the word of encouragement if a boy didn't play his best, instead of letting him and his family hear that he was no good and that they didn't know why he was asked

to play in the first place. How can so called grown-ups sit judgement on other people after only knowing them for 15 minutes when it has taken them two or three years getting to know others.

Tonight I have gone through many emotions, confusion mixed with hate, but perhaps hate is too strong of a word, I should say dislike. But this feeling is not geared at this moment to anybody but myself. I cannot help but think of times when I myself have been guilty of sitting on judgement of another human being, including children, and that I myself to some extent was somewhat of a snob as I was content in my world of so called friends until a whole new environment changed that, and that my group of friends were only influential people in that area. How much have I lost not knowing people that I might have been able to learn new things from, people who didn't limit me to parroting ideas.

It is too bad that things like this must happen before we can open our eyes. My son thrives on encouragement, competition, being pushed to the limit and then giving that little bit extra. Because of words I spoke without even thinking, the only encouragement he received from me was not to do his best, because I told him he didn't have any chance whether he was good or not, and because I was upset by this matter, I spent most of my time as one of his biggest critics. I know now that no matter what I should tell him, it should be to do his best at all times, and beat the odds.

Well now I have publicly stated my own opinion. There are just two thoughts that I would like to leave you with.

1. Next time that you have the opportunity to meet somebody new, instead of thinking "I don't need them, what can they do for me?", just think about how much you know. Do you know it all? Can maybe this new person teach me something new or additional? How much does it cost me to make this new person feel welcome instead of an outsider? Maybe if I give some encouragement, some complimentary word or a passing exchange, maybe, just maybe I'll learn to "Fill the Rink with brotherhood", and make somebody remember me as someone who makes people feel special, and

2. The last thought in closing this letter is another poem that I hope you will take time to look up and read, but the title tells it all. The poem is called "Children Learn What They Live."

Yours sincerely,  
Bonnie Mitchell

## Clergy Comment

by Rev. Art Tribe

I was thankful that Rev. John Robertson shared with us about his wilderness experience in this column two weeks ago. As he pointed out, it is often in these wilderness experiences (marriage breakdown, the loss of a job, etc.) that we encounter God.

But unfortunately, many people, like King Saul of Israel, during times of pressure, go their own way without consulting God.

When Romans built their great wall across the North of England, to guard against the fierce northern Tribes, they placed at intervals of a mile apart, towers rising above the ordinary level of the wall; and there soldiers were set to stand and watch. And when God built the battlements of our human life, He

placed at every seventh day a tower, a day thrust up above life's common levels, for the safeguard of our souls. Sunday, the day to worship and return thanks to God.

Many people hear Jesus Christ eagerly when He says: "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest." But when Jesus goes on to say: "Take My Yoke upon you and learn from Me..." far too many people turn a deaf ear!

You need God. There is a hoping, a longing, a desperate need for God in each one of us. How do you respond when God calls? We all need a Community of love in which to worship our loving God. Please worship regularly in the Church of your choice.