

The Acton Free Press

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Hide House clearly business of the year

Down the road in Georgetown the Chamber of Commerce presents an annual award to the business of the year.

The same isn't done here, but we're certain if there was such an award in Acton we know who would be the winner.

The olde Hide House.

There's been no business venture like it in the history of Acton.

It began a year ago this month as a fairly substantial operation. For the next 12 months the firm's watchword has been expansion.

The leather garments aspect has grown: furs, woolens, leather accessories and crafts added or expanded: furniture lines increased: a gift shop added: and soon a smorgasbord restaurant will open on the premises.

About 100,000 people from throughout the Golden Horseshoe area, the rest of Ontario, other provinces and the northern States have come to Acton to shop at the Hide House and some have visited other shops in Acton. It has even been a magnet drawing former residents back to town for visits too.

We've written a lot about the Hide House. One of our community news beats is business; doing stories on stores and industries which are newsworthy. Layoffs, openings and closings, and expansions all make news. Under the expansion label the Hide House has been a real newsmaker.

Besides drawing people to town the Hide House has installed some new spirit in Acton.

Contrary to what some think, the Leathertown movement wasn't born to help the Hide House, but because of the Hide House. Its ability to attract shoppers to Acton prompted some in the business community and a few people with no connection to local retail business to capitalize on the Hide House to develop the identity for Acton, bolster all local firms and publicize the town by creating Leathertown.

The Hide House isn't Leathertown, in the years ahead we expect it will be a very successful business with or without Leathertown, but it certainly is serving as a fine foundation for the rest of the business community to build on.

Citizen of Year 25th anniversary have big celebration

Next year will be the 25th anniversary of the Citizen of the Year award in Acton.

Even though 1982 is still over a month away the Acton Chamber of Commerce has already started looking at ways to mark the 25th anniversary.

Incoming president Dave Whiting thinks instead of selecting a 1982 recipient of the award the Chamber should honor with plaque presentations representatives of groups as well as all the individuals, who are living, that have been chosen citizen of the year in the past 24 years. In other words making the past citizens of the year the Citizens for the Years.

Chamber secretary Janet Fleming reports some others thought in the interest of posterity and continuity there should be a Citizen of the Year selected, but with past citizens of the year invited and recognized at the banquet. It would be a traditional citizen of the year program with the added feature of remembering past recipients.

Both proposals have merit undoubtedly, now that chamber directors have been reminded of the significance of next year for the citizen of the year program a few more variations will be offered for consideration.

While it's true that often the public's appreciation and support of the citizen of the year program has been disappointing, we feel it plays a very important role in the fiber of

the community.

Many of the past citizens of the year have made valuable contributions to the quality of life in this community long after being honored.

Thanking these people again will be a wonderful gesture and should boost interest in the citizen of the year program.

The Utopian plan would be to have a traditional honoring of a citizen of the year next year along with some kind of special honors for representatives of organizations which have previously selected citizens of the year as well as living past recipients and spouses and close family of deceased past citizens of the year.

The Chamber, naturally enough, would be concerned about the considerable cost of a full blown honoring of not just the 25th citizen of the year but also the past 24 citizens of the year or their families.

We'd urge the directors thoroughly investigate staging the 25th anniversary of the citizen of the year on a grand scale. There might well be so many in the community who would want to be on hand to see one or more of the past recipients of the award honored again that next year's citizen of the year banquet and dance would be the biggest and best ever from a financial standpoint too. It would also be a firm foundation on which to launch the citizen of the year program on its second quarter century.



On the Leavell

With Helen

With the Year of the Handicapped rapidly coming to a close, one of the major accomplishments of public education, I feel, was demonstrated earlier this month.

A new Woolco catalogue was distributed to local homes a few weeks ago, and on the cover was a young lady in a wheelchair. She was a pretty young woman with a lot going for her—yet she was handicapped. Inside there were a few more pictures of people in wheelchairs. Normal people, happy people, people like you and me, of all ages.

The handicapped need this good publicity. The general public has to be educated that to be handicapped is not a sin, or even need be a "handicap". All they ask for is a fair shake in life—and the Woolco catalogue made a giant step in the right direction.

And speaking of the handicapped, I notice a handicapped parking sign has been erected beside the arena at Prospect Park. Those without physical disabilities are supposed to respect those signs. After all, that's what Lorne Doherty's province-wide crusade is all about.

But Saturday, I saw a car parked in the reserved spot. Maybe there was a handicapped person associated with the car, chances are there wasn't.

Why not put yourself in a wheelchair or on crutches for a few hours and see the world from a different angle. With some luck and compassion you might be willing to park in another spot and walk a bit farther than take away a spot from someone who really needs it.

Edith Hillman, 853-2588 and Linda Morey, 853-0307, are the two local people you can contact if you're interested in the new toy library set up this week by the North Halton Association for the mentally retarded.

The toy library is located at the new Library and Cultural Centre in Geor-

town and runs Tuesdays from 1.30 to 3 p.m., Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 11.30 and Thursdays from 7 to 8 p.m.

The toy library, totally staffed by volunteers from north Halton, will lend toys, encourage learning through play and make suggestions about how to make toys at home.

The NHAMR has provided a \$4,000 start-up grant for the toy library and has applied to get half of that back from Wintario. They want to recover the other \$2,000 from donations. Lending priority is to the handicapped and toy donations will be gratefully accepted.



Wedding anniversary best wishes are extended to Joyce and Owen Masales of 287 Queen St. who celebrated their 40th anniversary on Sunday November 15.

A special family gathering was held at the home of their son Terry at 148 Churchill Rd. Present to share in the happy day were sons Gary and Terry, and four grandchildren, and Mr. Masales' father Lloyd.

Don't forget the Wintario Draw tomorrow night. Not only will Actonians have a chance to win a lot of money with the tickets they get at the door, but they will also have a chance to help out in the production of a province-wide television show. Many local residents will even get on television.

Why don't you go and see if you can be one of the lucky ones to "push the button" to make the balls start spinning.

And speaking of draws—time is running out to purchase an Actario ticket. That's one lottery that shouldn't be scoffed at. Where else can you buy a ticket which will give you excellent chances of winning the weekly \$350 cash draw, or the monthly trip draw, not to mention all sorts of gift vouchers for local stores?

Last year, between Gord and I, we made a profit of \$300 after the cost of our tickets. Gord won the cash and I

won some vouchers. Not a bad deal.

If two relatively new residents (in the past seven years) can each buy a ticket for a worthwhile cause, what about some of the life long citizens—those who have some fond memories of the town hall

Past—it's only four more weeks till Christmas.

Co-op Nursery School students had a special treat lately. They have been lunching at Mother's Pizza. The latest trip was yesterday (Tuesday).

Hey guys, got some spare time on your hands?

Big Brothers volunteers are urgently needed to spend three or four hours a week with a fatherless boy. Big Brothers isn't interested in recruiting superstars. The most successful volunteers are men of average abilities who recognize the contribution they can make to a boy's development and have the heart to follow through with it. Men 18 years and older living in this area are asked to call Big Brothers at 845-6465.

And in keeping with the Year of the Handicapped theme, Acton Share Group is holding a craft and bake, and a white elephant sale this Friday at the downtown Family Cleaners. All proceeds go towards Activan. A special feature will be the sugar free baking for diabetics.

Greg Landriault was the lucky winner in last month's Scotia Club hockey draw. The 13 year old v n a cash certificate worth \$50. Greg has been in the Club for six years and this is his first win.

MEANDERINGS by Mabel Barkman Sundaes Treat

This is a dessert that changes plain vanilla ice cream into a delicious dish. First you put a tablespoon of brown sugar and a teaspoon of butter in a non-stick frying pan. Add a half cup of slivered almonds and stir with a fork over medium heat until well coated and the almonds begin to brown. Set aside. Then make a chocolate sauce or buy chocolate sauce and warm on the stove.

Put two scoops of ice cream in a pretty serving dish—a large wine goblet is attractive. Pour over some chocolate sauce and add the almonds. Eat before the chocolate melts the ice cream. This has become a favorite dessert for us.



Outdoors

BY LORNE FLETCHER

A cold Grey Cup weekend plus snow on the ground proves it's time for a good percentage of anglers to pack away their rods, reels and waders etc for the winter season.

Good maintenance at the end of the season will make for a much longer life span plus more employment in the future.

Rods should be washed and well dried, guides and tips checked for breakage or line cuts. A needle inserted in line guides and rotated at

right angles to the rod will quickly show up any defects of wear, one bad guide will soon wear out a good line.

Reels should be well cleaned, old grease removed and replaced with a good quality grease; never use petroleum jelly as it becomes quite hard in cold weather. Vaseline or gasoline should not be used for cleaning unless the reel is completely disassembled, these fluids will dissolve friction brake and slip clutch parts.

Waders, raincoats and outer wear will last much longer with a little care. Rubber and vinyl products deteriorate quickly under the wrong conditions.

Store these items in black plastic bags in a cool place, preferably away from electric motors or appliances. Ozone produced by electric

motors is quite harmful to rubber products.

The recent rainfall plus snow has brought up the level of all rivers in this area, hopefully making for some good late fall fishing for Pickerell and Rainbow, that is providing you can stand the cold.

Creeping paralysis is no joke. When you cannot tie on a hook it is time to give up; inside or outside fortitude will not work at this point.

Many local anglers are looking forward to the upcoming ice fishing season. This activity sure can shorten those long winter months. I enjoy the many hours spent in my warm ice hut on Lake Simcoe. This activity can be shared by many as there are usually plenty of rental huts available under good ice conditions, usually around January 15. Dress warm and wear leather mukluks.

Back issues

10 years ago

November 24, 1971

A pair of Acton men were charged by Acton and Milton OPP and Oakville and Milton municipal police on charges of car theft. Investigation showed 33 cars have been stolen in recent months, six of them in Acton.

There was strong opposition after Oakville's reeve and deputy-reeve blocked a motion to reappoint Acton's Bert Hinton to the Sheridan Board of Governors. According to reeve Allan Masson it would be in the best interests of relations between Oakville and the college to have an Oakville appointee to replace Hinton. Warden Frank Oakes, of Acton, defended Mr. Hinton, saying the former warden had forgotten more about municipal politics than some councillors would ever know.

20 years ago

November 23, 1961

Yesterday switches were thrown and motors hummed as Acton's community sponsored ice plant was put into operation. If this test run proves satisfactory, Mike Sumka, the engineer in charge, said the first sheet of artificial ice will be made. All this has been accomplished since the fundraising campaign began last May. Six months ago the Community Centre project—with a goal of \$60,000—went over the top.

Local blood donors reacted to an emergency call by the Acton Red Cross, to bolster the supply of a special blood type that had been almost exhausted. Phone calls were made to previous donors of Rh negative type 'A' blood after a patient in a Hamilton hospital had required 12 of the 20 pints in the bank. Everyone who could come did respond, to boost the supply by 14 pints.

50 years ago

November 19, 1931

Last Friday evening about 75 of the neighbors and friends of the Dublin community gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Elliott to spend an evening with them, prior to their departure from the old Elliott homestead which has been sold to Mr. Marshall, Toronto. Mr. Duncan McDougall was in charge of the arrangements.

The wedding took place in the United Church Georgetown on Thursday last by the Rev. R. W. Rumley, of Miss Dorothy May Ballentine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Ballentine to Harold Thomas Marshall, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Marshall, all of Georgetown.

75 years ago

November 22, 1906

The high school concert was an unqualified success. The capacity of the town hall was taxed. Rev. J. C. Wilson was the chairman. The high school glee club took part. Solos by Miss Bertie Smith and Miss Jessie Nicklin, tableaux and recitations were well received. Metriculation diplomas were presented to Ralston Brown and Vincent Goodeve, teachers certificates to Jennie Smith, Marie Goodeve Eva Smith and Maggie Bennett, and certificates for entrance to high school to Amy Speight, Ada Graham, Gertie Johnston, Arlof Dills, Mabel Moffat, Andy O'Brien, Campbell Clark, Maggie McDonald, Arthur Plant, Lena Haywood, Bessie Husband, Erle White, Lena Holmes, Lillian Williams, Elsie Bauer, Eric Garvin, Frankie Mullin. Principal Stewart and his staff are to be congratulated.

The Methodist Church will provide a place where the young men of the village, especially those who live in boarding houses, may spend their evenings for moral, mental, physical and social advantages. The old Baptist church on Elgin St. will be furnished with heat, light, chairs and tables, an organ, newspapers, periodicals, games, etc. and it is hoped a few simple features for gymnastic exercises will be added. It will be open evenings when there are no services in the churches. Donations of checkers, chess, crokinole, carpet balls, parlor croquet, punching bag, etc. are sought.

100 years ago

November 24, 1881

Death seems to claim more victims from among the citizens of this village and vicinity in the present year than during any previous year. This morning it is our sorrowful duty to note the demise of another from among our ranks. Mrs. Thomas Moore Sr., more familiarly known as Grandma Moore, was called to her Maker. Her death was caused by some trouble of the heart. She felt most keenly the death of her son several weeks ago and this is thought to have hastened her death.

Advertisement - Big Chance! A.W. Green will give special bargains: tea sets, stone china, 44 pieces \$2.25; china tea sets, 44 pieces, from \$4.50; chamber sets, 9 pieces, \$2; glass tea sets for 50 cents. All sugar 12 lbs. for \$1; brooms 3 for 50 cents, 3 corn scrub brushes for 25 cents, mixed pickles and chow chow sold in any quantity. Lake Huron herrings by the dozen or barrel. Pails, tubs, washboards, ropes at bottom prices.

Our readers write

Thanks CWL coverage

Dear Sir:

The CWL of Rockwood and Oustic wish to express our sincere thanks in your excellent coverage of our 25th Anniversary in The Acton Free Press. We certainly appreciate the time and

effort put into it. Your report and photograph will be a memorial addition to our 25-year history. Once again, our sincere thanks.

Yours truly,
Ray Miller,
Secretary