

The Acton Free Press

TELEPHONE (519) 853-2010
 Business and Editorial Office

Don McDonald, Publisher

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Will miss Father Speagle, welcome Father Diodati and Pastor Jean Stairs

The clergy plays an important role in the quality of life of this community so it is always sad, not just for the members of an individual church but the entire community, when one of them leaves.

Father Leo Speagle, a robust man, has been transferred from Acton to Kitchener. It is a great loss not just to the Roman Catholic congregation but Acton.

Besides tending to the spiritual needs of their flocks local ministers have become key figures in social and quasi-political matters in recent years.

For example when Acton suffered a dose of yellow-brown water for a week recently Father Speagle spoke eloquently and forcefully for the community at a councillors' drop-in.

As a spokesman for Actonians he warned regional staff and politicians they have to quit giving Acton just any old kind of drinking water. He advised the region those sent to explain the problem to Acton would be held personally responsible if we received second rate water again.

There have been other examples of members of the clergy speaking up on non-religious matters in recent years.

Their voice is welcomed heartily. Because of their station in life, ministers are listened to and taken seriously, particularly by governments. They take the pulse of a large segment of the population.

Acton has lost a wonderful man in Father Speagle.

At the same time Acton's happy to welcome its first female minister of the clergy, Pastor Jean Stairs, really the first minister at Acton Baptist Church, since another strong community voice, Rev. Das Sydney, departed. Pastor Stairs will undoubtedly become as involved in the community at large as her colleagues here in Acton and her youth and sex should bring a new perspective to the church role in town.

We haven't met him yet, but are certain Father Ralph Diodati will add much of life in Acton too. His friendship with former resident Father Michael Bennett and former pastor here Father James Smye will afford him an early understanding of what this little town is all about.

Both Father Diodati and Pastor Stairs have big shoes and robes to fill here, in more ways than one, but with the help of their congregations and the rest of Acton, should have no problems.



On the Leavell
 With Helen

Our readers write

Leathertown thanks citizens for draw support

Dear Sir:
 I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Leathertown Association, which as everyone is aware, includes all Actonians.
 Thursday evening the Association hosted the Wintario Draw at the Acton High School. It was a very exciting experience for everyone involved.
 The basic reason for this draw was to raise money for Leathertown projects. It accomplished many goals which are all beneficial to Acton. The draw introduced the people of Ontario to Acton. It promoted our town as Leathertown, which is one of our ultimate goals. The T.V. coverage of Acton was extensive and very well selected. The draw also gave each of us the opportunity to join together, as a community, in support of one event. It allowed the members of the Leathertown association to become better acquainted.

For those of us who personally attended Wintario, or viewed it on television, there is no need to mention what a huge success the Wintario draw was. There were 600 people present. This, together with the additional sales of Wintario tickets, is responsible for the money raised. Over \$1500.00 was collected in aid of Leathertown.

Wintario has expressed their thanks to the Leathertown Association, and is anticipating their return to Acton. The Wintario draw would not have been possible without the support of many very dedicated people. It was a community effort, and the success of it is a good indication of the town's spirit and potential.

My sincere thanks to everyone involved.
 Chip Petrillo,
 Chairman,
 The Leathertown Association.

Wintario thanks Acton

Dear Sir:
 On behalf of the Ontario Lottery Corporation, I would like to express our sincere thanks to the people of Acton for their warm and tremendous co-operation during the recent Wintario draw show on November 26, 1981.
 While I know there were many people involved in the organization, may I

congratulate Chip Petrillo, Chairman of the Leathertown Association for his efforts.
 I hope it will not be too long before the Wintario draw show returns to your community.

Yours very truly,
 D. Norman Morris,
 President.

Praise parade supporters

Dear Sir:
 I would like to take this opportunity to say "thank you" to everyone who helped to organize and put on the 1981 Acton Santa Claus Parade.
 Acton's Men—organized the parade; Firefighter—marshaled the parade; B.I.A., Acton Y's Men, Acton U's Mennettes, Ladies' Legion Auxiliary, Scout and Guide mothers—financial supporters; Halton Regional Police—traffic control; plus the groups who entered floats—all those people who marched or were on floats. And of course Ron Douglas (Santa) and Bert Robertson, Santa's driver.

Special thanks to the Acton Free Press for your pre-parade publicity.
 Santa Claus parades are for the children and I think our parade showed this by the amount of children in and watching the parade.

The parade committee was very disappointed with the lack of commercial floats. They would like to see more floats in this category next year.
 The date for next year's parade will be the last Saturday in November 1982.

Bev Jones,
 Chairman,
 Acton Santa Clause Parade '81.

Thank support craft festival

Dear Sir:
 Thank you sincerely for the marvelous support given to our Country Craft Festival held on Saturday November 21. Despite a threatening weather "cold front" it was a very successful day.
 Evolving out of this day, a series of interesting craft courses are planned

for 1982 in Nassagaweya.
 Once again, thank you.

Yours very truly,
 Elizabeth Adamak,
 President,
 Nassagaweya Country Craft Guild.

Happy Birthday greetings go out to Martha Jackson of Mapleview Lodge. Mrs. Jackson turned 100 on Saturday and was active and spry the entire day meeting about 100 guests at a special open house.

But as much as she enjoyed herself at the open house, she had an even better time Thursday when her favorite hockey star of all time, Darryl Sittler, visited her.

Special thanks go out to Darryl Sittler, who took time out of a very busy and tiring schedule to spend an hour with the elderly lady. Rumor has it Darryl had just as good a time as everyone else at the birthday party held at the home of Joan Waldie, at R.R. 2, Acton.

Many thanks go out to John McCauley, assistant director of officiating for the NHL who made all the arrangements for Darryl to come to Acton. Without John the day would not have been possible.

Shawn Lambert got to see his favorite star recently also, but in a totally different world than Darryl Sittler. Shawn had the thrill of his life last week at the Alice Cooper Concert at Maple Leaf Gardens.

At Cooper's concert in Buffalo a few weeks before, Shawn bought a t-shirt for \$9. Naturally he wore it to the Toronto concert. With his gold seat tickets, he was sitting at about the Blue Line (on the hockey rink) and was easily spotlit. And spotted he was.

Seems Alice Cooper's suitcase will all his t-shirts was waylaid, and the not-so-tame rock star was doomed to face 12,000 fans shirtless. A Cooper flunky started searching the crowd for a shirt—and saw Shawn, in exactly the shirt Cooper had lost.

Shawn was quickly whisked backstage and chatted with Cooper's band—all the while sitting shirtless. His \$9 shirt was given to that night's main attraction. It took a while before someone finally found a replacement shirt to wear. He was told to come back after the warm-up group Goddo's set. Armed



with his backstage pass, Shawn wandered around between acts. He even ushered Cooper to the stage and hack, feeling like one of the boys.

Although he never got his original shirt back, Shawn was given a replacement—a different color and not as nice—but still has his backstage pass which is good for any Alice Cooper concert anywhere.

Shawn was at the CNE two summers ago when Cooper failed to show up for his planned concert. Shawn was about six rows from the front when the infamous riot broke out. He says he quickly ducked under the seats until the ruckus was over.

How come nothing like that ever happens at a Nell Diamond concert?

Linda Nellis, former owner of the Acton Yarn Barn is off to Dallas, Texas in a few weeks to take directorship training with Mary Kay Ash, owner of Mary Kay Cosmetics.

While on her week-long course, Linda will be going through manufacturing facilities and spending a day in Mary Kay's home. To become a director is the highest achievement in the company, not bad considering Linda has only been in the business for 10 months.

When Linda sold the Willow St. business and went into retirement, she discovered the world of beauty shows and facials and has worked her way into becoming a successful business woman, winning diamonds, jewellery and crystal. One of her awards she won was a 100 per cent wool Icelandic coat—somewhat ironic after selling a wool store.

As if Halton-Burlington MPP Julian Reed wasn't busy enough Thursday evening performing at the pre-show for the Wintario Draw, but he was also on the television program Provincial Affairs Saturday night, this time as energy critic, not performer. But then I guess they are one and the same.

Lots of Christmas parties are taking place this time of year.
 Let me know how they go, others are interested.

I have a message to the jerk who followed me to the Free Press Thursday night—a big raspberry.

While hubby Gord and I were on our way to Wintario draw we had to stop in at the office and pick up some more film. Some excuse for a driver was parked on Mill St. and trying to get out. His left front fender was on the road, but the rest of his car remained in the parking spot, in front of Royal Cafe. I pulled around the corner and saw this guy, slowed down and proceeded—I had the right of way. I beeped my horn to let this guy know I was there, and merrily went on my way. When I pulled into the Free Press parking lot, I didn't notice a car behind me—that is not until Gord got out of the car and the guy started hollering at him for "not being considerate" and letting him out. It sure must be nice to have nothing better to do than drive around following people who you get mad at. Sure wish I had the time. The guy kept yelling despite being told we had the right of way.

Well, if the guy wants to continue hollering, he can do so in front of a policeman. I've checked—and I had the right of way. To stop where I would have had to would be a dangerous spot for cars coming around the same corner I had just turned. And buddy, there are laws about harassing people, like you did. Next time you get mad at someone, take a look at who is breaking the law.

MEANDERINGS
 by Mabel Barkman
 Kirsten's Almonds

My Danish sister-in-law gave me this recipe for sugared almonds and they are a tasty treat at Christmas.

Put in a large iron or heavy frying pan, 1 cup of almonds, with the skins on, ½ cup of white sugar and ½ cup of cold water. Bring to a boil and stir with a fork until the water is almost evaporated.

Take from the stove and continue stirring until the sugar begins to coat the almonds. Put on wax paper and separate the clusters. Leave until cool to eat.

Serve in a pretty candy dish and I'm sure everyone will enjoy them.

Clergy Comment

by Rev. C.E. Hodgson
 Man cannot solve the many complex problems of our world. The greatest problem in the world is Sin. Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God". Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."
 John 3:17 states "For God sent not His son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. The most important thing in life is to be prepared for eternally and Hebrews 9:27 states "For it is appointed unto men once to die and after that the judgment!"

The grave is not the end. We make the decision in this life where we will spend eternity. John 3:36 "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him."

I am thankful there is Good News for this troubled world, and the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ still changes lives. John 1:9 states "If we confess our sins, He is faithful

and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

The Spirit of God is still using men and women to preach the Gospel to the poor. The Lord still heals broken hearts, brings deliverance to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind, and sets at liberty those that are bruised. (Luke 4:18)

Down through the centuries, the church has been criticized and persecuted but it still lives on for Jesus declared in Matthew 16:18 that "He would build His church and even the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it."

If you have been turned off by the church and religion, turn to Jesus Christ, the one that is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8)

Jesus stands at your heart's door desiring to come in, the decision is up to you. Rev. 2:20 "Behold I stand at the door and knock. If any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in to him and will sup with him and he with me."

Back issues

10 years ago

December 1, 1971

Acton council is shook up over blasting alleged to come from Indusmin Quarries. "What can citizens affected by blasts do about it?" asked Deputy-Reeve G.W. (Pat) McKenzie. "There should be a follow up—it is becoming a nuisance." It's coming right up through the heart of town." One suggestion to counter the problem would be to purchase or rent a seismograph to monitor the blasts. Then there would be something to work with in regard to over-blasting, controlled by the government.

Acton police have received complaints about noisy snowmobiles, being driven as late as 2 p.m. after the first snowfall of the season Monday night.

"Lay your money down!... I'll raise you!... C'Mon seven!... This is the sound of gambling, which many students enjoyed at Las Vegas Nite last Friday at the High School. The program started at 8 p.m. and for two hours gamblers won or lost money in poker, Crown and Anchor, monopoly, chug-a-lug, rumoli, roulette, checkers, craps, bingo or black-jack. When the money was all counted at 10 p.m. the winner was Karen Pierce, with over \$20,000.

20 years ago

November 30, 1961

John H. Goy qualified for a third term as mayor, by acclamation after nomination meetings Thursday and Friday evenings.

Over 100 people attended the first meeting Thursday, and nominated 52 people for a position on municipal council. Of those, only 21 decided to throw their hats into the ring for the Tuesday, December 5 election, for positions as reeve, deputy reeve, council, hydro commissioner and school board. Free Press news editor Don Ryder is running for Hydro commissioner.

Five-year-old Debbie and her sister Diane Bousfield, seven, will be singing "Zippidy-Do-Dah" on the "Tiny Talent Show" Sunday afternoon.

Black-faced men on the street Saturday were only Lions Club members publicizing their Minstrel Show.

The strings on two fingers... don't forget the TB clinic or the election.

50 years ago

November 28, 1931

The girl guide concert in the Town Hall last evening drew a good crowd and the audience was treated to a programme given entirely by the Troop which was thoroughly enjoyable and very versatile and entertaining.

At the Royal Winter Fair this week Leslie Bros. of Acton won fifth place on stallion foaled in 1931 with Dictator and fourth in Floss for brood mare foaled previous to January 1, 1928. In the Special Boys' Post, Gordon Leslie of Acton won first with Dictator.

Flames which swept the barn on the farm of Miss Mae Hallet, R.R. 2 Acton Thursday night last completely destroyed the structure, a season's crop and a number of cattle and horses.

75 years ago

November 29, 1906

The joint committee of the Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational churches will meet in Toronto to further consider church union.

The new Public School Act, with a view to greater efficiency, enacts somewhat radical changes. County model schools are abolished as their term is too short; the 3rd class teaching certificate is discontinued, one year's attendance at normal school is required and also one year successful work as a teacher as a condition for a certificate.

It does not improve the reputation of the hotels to have drunken men prowling about the streets as they have been doing with such frequency lately.

Harold Nicklin has been elected president of the Young Men's Association, G.P. Hayman vice-president, Chas. Matthews secretary, A.T. Brown treasurer.

100 years ago

December 1, 1881

A subscriber living in Illinois, U.S.A., writes to say he looks forward to the Free Press eagerly every Saturday.

Insurance agents visit our town by the dozens these days. They are most persistent.

Mr. Thomas Perryman has purchased from Mr. W. E. Admas the property on the corner of Frederick and Agnes for \$400.

Two additional heating registers have been placed in the Methodist church.

One of our village sportsmen has already trapped nearly a dozen minks. After the business of council was concluded, Mr. Wm. Hemstreet, village constable, entertained at an oyster supper at the Dominion Hotel.

The express train yesterday ran over a woman lying on the track at Brampton. She had a bottle containing whiskey which fact explains it.

A railway brakeman was horribly mangled at Burlington while coupling cars.