## The Acton Free Press

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Don McDonald, Publisher

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## Paper feels the inflationary pinch like other businesses

Hiking the price of the paper is never a decision taken lightly publisher Don McDonald says.

However, there comes a point when the inflationary pressures on this publication can't be absorbed or passed on to the advertisers any longer.

And there is no question the newspaper business feels the same inflationary pressures as other small businesses and as readers experience with their personal and household budgets.

The Free Press went to 25 cents in September, 1980.

Since then there have been over a dozen increases in the price of gas. Energy price increases effect us just as much as they do you. Our staff must be compensated more for their driving to assignments etc. Energy price increases hit electricity which drives the computers, typewriters, presses etc. Trucks are used to deliver the paper to carriers and stores.

Paper costs have been soaring in recent years and there's

I would like to share with you some

The citizens of our town watched as a

They sit back as council earmarks

\$1.7 million library and cultural centre

was built in Georgetown and said noth-

\$1.6 million or more for new municipal

offices in the Georgetown area and say

They sit back and say "too bad the old

post office was torn down. It would have

been a great building to restore."

And yet when the province and cul-

(Would have been is the key phrase)

tural people offer us more than \$200,000

(more than half the cost of the project)

to restore the last and oldest municipal

building Halton Hills (the finest

building of its kind in Canada at the

time) they don't sit back. Instead they

gass around a petition not to spend tax

The net result is that a real link to our

past and a real and viable key to our

future looks as if it is going to be torn

Question: If Halton Hills needs a new

The province offered us a 50 to 60 per

cent discount for the restoration of the

town hall, and we just happen to have

one here in disuse, why not use it?

amazing things about Acton.

Our readers write

Acton's attitude towards

no relief in sight.

Wages for employees in all departments must go up of course, Free Press workers must pay more for their food, housing etc., the same as everyone else.

There's considerable mailing involved in this business. Ottawa just put the price of a stamp up to 30 cents.

Even little expenses like film and chemicals have been going up substantially in the last 16 months.

The Free Press, like any small business, has been hurt by high interest rates.

It all adds up to a necessary price increase which we didn't want to institute but found necessary to keep the paper financially viable in these tough economic times.

But we feel readers won't mind paying the same amount for a weekly copy of the most comprehensive package of Acton news, photographs and sports as they do to send mail now from one side of town to the FORMANAMAN THIS STAMP DOES NOT IN ANY WAY ENTITLE THE USER TO QUICKER, MORE EFFICIENT OR CONSIDERATE POSTAL SERVICE. IF THAT'S WHAT YOU'D THOUGHT -- TOUGH! RIGHT 30 WHOLE CENTS!





It's been a long time coming, but the

So what, you ask? Well, the Free

Press's own Don McDonald part-

icipated in this race way back last

winter. And on Saturday, January 23,

Canadians will have a chance to enjoy

the thrills and spills as captured on film

It was early in 1981 that media re-

presentatives challenged man, slope

and suitcase in a series of regional

events held in Calgary, Montreal and

ski hills as these daring (well, that's

what the press release said) people

raced their way to victory, off banks

Lions Club recently held their annual

Christmas Tail draw. The winners are:

1.743 J. Greenwood, Acton, five tails; 2.

2538 J. Furtado, Hamilton, five tails; 3.

262 Steve Papillon, Acton, four tails; 4.

869 Elmer Andrews, Acton, four tails;

5. 281 Scott Marlatt, Hamilton, three

tails; 6. 817 Corry Vos. Acton, three

tails: 7, 1968 Doug Anderson, Acton, two

tails: B. 330 A. Spurrell, Acton, two

tails; 9, 600 J. McGinn, Acton, one tail;

and 10, 004 Hugh Fitzpatrick, St. John,

Trinity United Church minister

Chuck Beaton was quoted in Slinger's

column in the Toronto Star recently re-

garding a former Acton resident and

member of the church who committed

suicide. The Star had run a story on the

tragedy of the man's death. Beaton

wrote a letter to Slinger about the

man's obvious torment and asked how

New Brunswick, one tail.

and over moguls in a sultcase.

There was lots of excitement on the

by CTV's Wide World of Sports.

Toronto areas.

Samsonite Downhill National Final

Suitcase Race will finally appear on

national television this month.

town hall amazing than \$200,000, or about \$13 per Acton

> The cost of the new one is approximately \$1.6 million or over \$100 per household in Halton Hills.

Which makes more sense? It seems you have to live in Georgetown to be heard.

We are trying to build for the future in Acton by making people aware of our past. Just what support can we expect in council when we don't have the Georgetown connection? Probably

I commend Mayor Pomeroy (who has shown that he is the mayor of Halton Hills, not just Georgetown, Acton or Esquesing) and councillors Booth, Grubbe, McDonald, Knechtel and Whiting for backing this worthhile project.

As for the rest of the councillors, perhaps we should learn a lesson from the past. The Acton reeve resigned over the building of the town hall. Recently at least one councillor threatened resignation if the town hall was restored. Maybe, we should have taken him up on it.

The town hall will probably be torn down this year, exactly 100 years after being built.

Hopefully people won't be saying "too bad the old town has was torn down" ten years from now. It will be too late. Chip Petrillo

#### one we already have. The cost to Halton Hills taxpayers would have been less Rare stamps stolen

Dear Sir:

nothing.

dollars on it.

We received a parcel from Alberta and stamps had been cut off. There was a large square cut from the wrappings. The person who sent the parcel had put rare stamps on it, so they could be cancelled for his collection.

put in a complaint at the Post Office here, but not given much hope that the stamps would be recovered. It is really upsetting to find mail is

What are we going to pay more postage for? When some postal employee can lift stamps that are valuable

to a collector?

I wonder how often this occurs? It has happened to us before. We never complained but decided to do so this time, hoping it will help to stop the practice of illegal stamp collecting.

> Yours truly, Freda Lambert

#### not safe enroute to your address. Acton needs its streets and sidewalks plowed

Dear Sir: To whom it may concern:

What do we people of Acton have to do to get things done around town like having our streets and sidewalks

You phone people and they are always ready to pass the buck, but when it comes election time again they will be ready to do all the things they dida't do.

So come on guys and girls, get off your butts before someone breaks an arm or leg before you do something about it. Let's get our little town like it used to be.

> Anita Ockenden, 84 Churchill Rd. South.

P.S. We are paying good taxes and they get good wages. For what? Looking after Georgetown!

### Cancer Unit thanks donors

Dear Sir: The Acton Unit of the Canadian Cancer Society would like to thank the Activity Group and all those who contributed so generously to the special Christmas parcels sent to Princess Margaret Hospital and Lodge, Toronto, and Henderson Hospital, Hamilton.

Donations of a variety of knitted articles, Christmas baking, coffee, creamer, sugar, writing paper and personal articles were sent and received with thanks.

Sincerely

Susan Sale (Acton Unit, Publicity Chairman).

people who knew him couldn't have spotted the signs that he was troubled.

Isabel Anderson very kindly sent this in to The Free Press: The Nightingale A nightingale lived in a tree: His song was sweet to hear,

He was happy, as only a bird can be, And his notes were full and clear. Then a cruel dart from a coward's sling Brought pain to his gallant heart;

It crippled his joyous, eager wing,

And made my teardrops start. Yet still he sang on his swaying bough, And nobody knew but me, For his sagging wing was in shade, somehow.

Where nobody else could see. The rover tossed, with careless hear, The incident aside: "I don't like nightingales," he said,

And left me crucified. Just a reminder about the Al Ruelens Memorial Volleyball Tournament to be held January 15.

The Halton Regional Police put on and play in this tourney with the proceeds going to the Canadian Cancer Society. There is no admission charge but Cancer Society volunteers will be present to accept donations from the public who wish to attend.

Acton's Dirty Dozen are the defending champions of this goodwill project, held at G.E. Perdue High School, Oakville. Games start at 7 p.m.

Jennifer Barr leaves us this week to pursue other interests, after more than 12 years in the newspaper business.

Our readers will miss her Profiles column, and the advertisers will miss her cheery visits. But I must admit it is I who will miss her the most.

Working in a predominantly male setting up here on the third floor of the Free Press building, Jenny has become a good friend, a pal, and a confidant. We have grown to sense each other's moods, and avoid each other when necessary. I have learned to accept some of her colloquialisms such as "oozing" (it's an inside joke), and she has

learned to accept my red pen. We have both grown to respect each other's judgment.

Now as my time with Jenny in the next room draws to a close, I realize how much I will miss her, and how I wish we could make up for the lost time when a casual hello would make the day's conversation.

Jenny was one of the few people who understood why I found it necessary to take an almost two year hiatus from the news room. Now it is my turn to understand why she must leave.

Everyone in town wishes you the best Jenny, but I wish you more than that. By the way, who's going to water the plants now?

> **MEANDERINGS** By Mabel Barkman Porzelki

I know New Year's will be over when this gets into print and all the traditional food will have been eaten. However, perhaps you would like to know how to make Porzelki, a Russian type of raised doughnut served at New Year's.

The recipe, given to me by my husband's family, is of enormous proportions and so I have reduced it to feed four or five. First of all put a quarter of cup of water in a cup with a half teaspoon of sugar and a teaspoon of dry yeast. Stir and set aside.

In a fairly large bowl put two cups of white flour, 1/2 tsp. salt, 1 tablespoon white sugar, half a cup of washed and dried raisins. Push the flour mixture to the sides and add two-thirds of a cup of milk, two eggs, a tablespoon of melted butter and the yeast mixture. Beat all together and set in a warm place to rise for at least an hour.

Put a pan with about three Inches of oil on the stove and heat it slowly until a small cube of bread turns brown in a matter of seconds. Then scoop out little rounds of dough and drop carefully into the hot oll.

The porzelki will probably turn over themselves and when light brown take out with a slotted spoon and put on crumpled paper towels.

Roll in a bit of white sugar and they are ready to eat. Just make sure the raisins don't scorch and the centres are cooked and not doughy. They make a tasty New Year's supper.

## Back issues

10 years ago

January 5, 1971 Statements by Acton pilot Dave Muckle to a Fergus service club have unleased a new barrage of publicity and press furor over the location of a new Toronto International Airport. Speaking to the Rotary Club of Fergus last week, Air Canada Captain Muckle charged unscrupulous real estate agents and politicians with putting their own interests ahead of airline passenger safety and causing billions of dollars to be sent unnecessarily for a new airport taking off from Toronto are being strained to the utmost to keep noise to a minimum be charged.

Three children have been involved in accidents within four days with two of them injured. On New Year's Day, two sisters were sleighriding at the side of the road at their Church St. home when they slid into the path of a car. The driver was unable to avoid the girls, one girl was taken to Guelph General Hospital for treatment of a broken collarbone.

#### 20 years ago

January 4, 1962 Town workmen stacked hundreds of Christmas trees in a pile near the town dump Wednesday as they gathered the last remnants of Christmas in readiness for a tree burning ceremony Friday evening. Trucks were stacked high and workmen had to chase some of the smaller trees which were blowing around in the wind Wednesday.

Fire chief Mick Holmes and firefighter Hilliard Price had their New Year's dinner interrupted Monday evening when they made an emergency run to Georgetown District Hospital. The two firemen had to accompany a Georgetown doctor and operate oxygen tanks during the ambulance ride to hospital.

Newly inaugurated mayor John Goy recognized the challenges he and town council will face in the upcoming year, but predicted a successful term as Acton Council started into another year's work Tuesday eveing. "I am sure council will be strengthened by your being here. I feel we are going to have a very successful year. . . I am sure we are going to continue to progress in Acton," he said in his inaugurai address.

#### 50 years ago

December 31, 1931 Esquesing Township will have a contest for Monday for all the posts. George Cleave and George Currie are contesting the Reeveship and W.G. Appelbe and W.A. Wilson the Deputy- Reeveship. For Councillors Wesley Murray, Lorne L Mullin, E.E. Harrop, N.A. Robinson and W. Schenk are in the running for the Council

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Kenney of Montreal and Mr. Telford Kenney of Hamilton were

at the parental home here. Mr. and Mrs. Edwin G. Landsborough, Jean and Robert of Guelph spent Christmas at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Landsborough.

Mr. and Mrs. F.J. Browning and Miss Ettie Dills of Toronto spent Christmas at the home of their sister and brother.

Miss Frances Hurst is home from Richard's Landing, St. Joseph's Island, for the holidays.

#### 75 years ago

January 7, 1907

The nomination day has come and gone and seats at the council table have gone abegging. Four names were put up for reeve and 11 for councillors. Reeve Swackhamer was elected by acclamation. Councillors are just two, Dr. Gray and A. Bell. N.W. Hirst was willing to stand but is disqualified since he is the assistant engineer of the Fire Company, and therefore a paid servant of the corporation. If the electors will now quit their fooling and elect by acclamation two able men, Acton will yet have a council. The entertainment of Knox Sunday

School on New Year's night was a great success. There was a cantata and drills. An Assembly Diploma was presented to Miss Hanson for reciting the whole of the shorter catechism and various scriptural

#### 100 years ago

January 5, 1582

The civic elections on Monday did not create a very great deal of interest in town. Reeve C.S. Smith had been elected by acclamation. Councillors elected are M. Speight, C.T. Hill, D.W. Campbell and James Moore. Just over 100 voted.

Nearly everybody seems to be affected more or less with the Manitoba fever. Thousands are swarming into the Prairie province and fortunes are being made. But there will be a sudden collapse for those who have been going too largely into speculative ventures. The water is terribly bad there, domestic conveniences are sadly lacking and there is a great deal of materia prevalent. So if you have made up your mind to go to Manitoba, be prepared

to sacrifice. Council accepted the plans for the town

During the year there were in Acton aix marriages, 32 births and 20 deaths.



# Outdoors

BY LORNE FLETCHER

Did you receive cross-country skis for Christmas?

Cross-country skiing is one of the nicest ways to get out of the house in winter. It also makes for good fam-

ily togetherness. Many people are out this week for the first time learning and enjoying this relatively new sport. It's a great way to good health plus one of the best ways and certainly the quietest way to enjoy the winter outdoors.

Study the waxing instructions for your skis, it's very important. Have this down pat for good performance on varying snow conditions.

One should watch the temperature on very cold days. Cold can be very insidious and can creep up on the unawares. Especially after some beavy activity your body warms up and off comes the mitts and cape and trouble begins.

The best way is not to overdo it in cold weather, travel at your own speed and don't try and keep up with someone else.

A few hardy anglers have been trying their luck on Fairy Lake for pike. Reports are of slow fishing, so far only a few fish taken. It will get better when the snow gets deeper on these shallow lakes.

Ice fishing has started on Scugog, no reports in as of this date. Lake Nippissing should soon be going strong but Ice conditions at Owen Sound and area are very poor, unless one can walk on water it is not safe by any stretch of the imagin-

Rumor has it that the M.N.R. has purchased the commercial fishing licence of the largest company going

out of Owen Sound, the Howell fishing boat, for the price of \$60,000. It's a good deal for Ontario and we need more of the same. The commercial fishing in Georgian Bay has become a sick-

ness in our society and has to stop very shortly or we will have another

Lake Erie situation on our hands. Pickerel flahing in Nottawasaga Bay has come to a standstill. One more year of nets in the Bay and the Ministry will have nothing to minister. Time has run out for this species, we need action now. Write your provincial and federal representatives, make your views vocal. We need action, not goobly-

gook. The department responsible for fisheries should have to publish the amount and variety of fish taken for the preceeding five years as well as if the fish were exported or not. I will wager a good bet that 90 per

cent of the fish taken end up on the Boston fish market. It is ironic that a new seafood

restaurant has opened in Collingwood without one variety of local fish on the menu.

We need to make waves.