

The Acton Free Press

TELEPHONE (519) 853-2010

Founded in 1875

Business and Editorial Office

Published every Wednesday by Metroland Printing & Publishing Ltd. at 59 Willow Street, Acton, Ontario, L7J 2M2. Telephone (519) 853-2010. Subscriptions: Single copies 30¢ each, \$15.00 per year in Canada, \$30.00 in all countries other than Canada.

The Acton Free Press is one of the Metroland Printing & Publishing Ltd. group of suburban newspapers which includes Ajax/Whitby/Pickering News Advertiser, Aurora Banner/Newsweek Edition, The Bolton Enterprise, Brampton Guardian, The Burlington Post, The Burlington Weekend Post, The Etobicoke Advertiser/Guardian, The Etobicoke Consumer, The Georgetown Independent, Markham/Thornhill Economist and Sun, The Milton Champion, The Mississauga News, The Mississauga News Weekend Edition, The North York Consumer, The North York Mirror, Oakville Beaver, Oakville Friday Beaver, Oshawa This Week, Oshawa This Weekend, Peel Consumer, The Richmond Hill/Thornhill Liberal, The Scarborough Consumer, The Scarborough Mirror, The Stouffville Tribune, The Woodbridge & Vaughan News.

Don McDonald, Publisher

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

Editor: Gord Murray
News Editor: Helen Murray
Sports: Dan McGiloway
Darkroom: Peter Mils

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT

Manager: Bill Cook
Sales: Susan Stone
Classified Advertising: Carolyn Arsen
National Advertising Sales Rep: Dan Poyntz (416) 363-1061

BUSINESS/ACCOUNTING OFFICE

Office Manager: Rhona Thornhill
Marilyn McArthur

CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT

Manager: Marilyn McArthur



Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with reasonable allowance for signature will not be charged for but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the applicable rate. In the event of a typographical error advertising goods or services at a wrong price, goods or services may not be sold. Advertising is merely an offer to sell, and may be withdrawn at any time.

Member of The Canadian Community Newspaper Association, and The Ontario Community Newspaper Association.

Second class mail registration Number 0515.

Arcade regulation probe wise municipal move

It's good to see Halton Hills has decided to look closely at how they can regulate pinball arcades, such as is done in other municipalities.

A parents' group, church and local school have expressed concern about an arcade which has been located in a gas station on the east side of Acton, but which hasn't been approved yet by the Committee of Adjustments.

At their recent meeting Committee of Adjustment heard concerns about children coming to school late and not being at the church for activities when they are supposed to be because of the attraction of the arcade. There were also concerns about the social impact of arcades on youngsters.

However, there would appear to be little that Committee of Adjustment can do about these worries, it isn't really within their jurisdiction to determine the location of such amusement

centres or hours of operation. The Committee of Adjustment only allows or denies minor exemptions from zoning and other municipal property regulations.

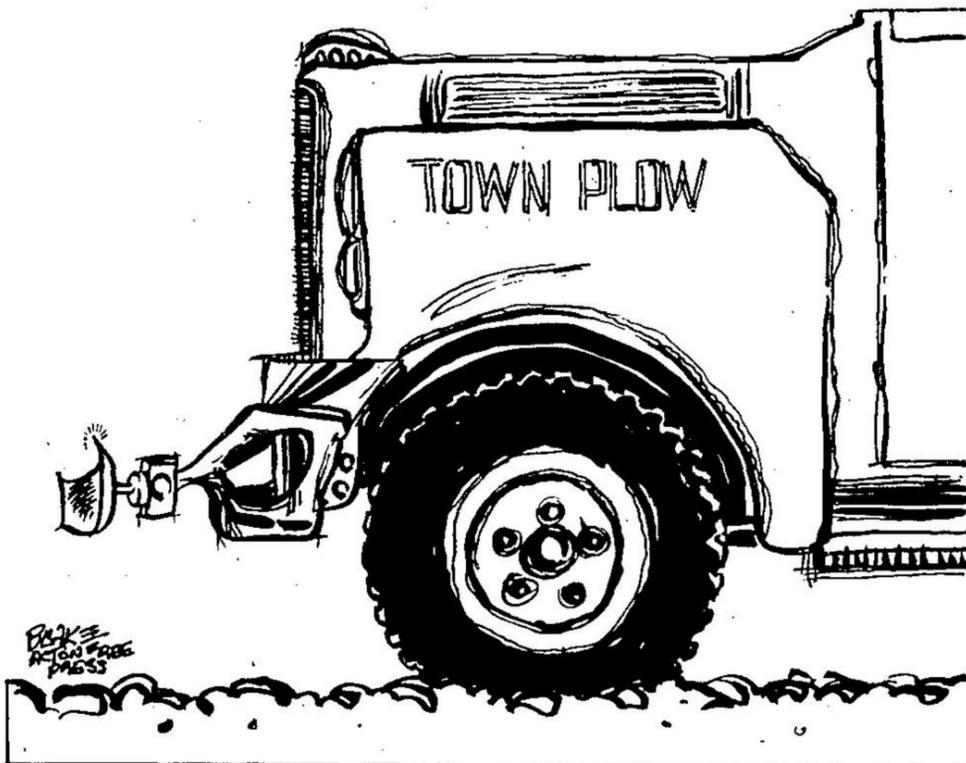
The town has now moved to licence arcades, at \$300 a shot, and is looking at regulations to govern where in a commercial zone an arcade may be located, hours of operation etc.

Arcades, plainly stated, have a bad reputation and worry many. They can and should be strictly regulated.

At the same time, parents, the church and school etc. must not leave the chore of regulating the arcade business entirely on the municipality.

It isn't up to the municipality to control how much time a child spends in an arcade.

Parental and school discipline can go a long way to solving the bad reputation of arcades.



Back to Acton Free Press

Back issues 10 years ago

January 26, 1972

Despite dedicated efforts by the medical officer of health and the director of nursing, public health nurses in North Halton are saddled with a tremendous work load, frustrated by attempts to carry out a program and find themselves unable to use much of their professional training. The situation is aggravated by a chronic shortage of nurses. This is the submission of Alma Swetman, a former nurse with the Halton County Health Unit in an interview with this newspaper.

After attempting to pass a forged cheque a Woodstock man was chased, caught and taken to the police station Thursday only to suddenly escape custody. After a couple of hours he was recaptured, charged and taken to jail in Milton.

A new business at an old location—L & L Ford Sales instead of Thompson Motors. The business and assets of Thompson Motors have been sold, effective February 1 to Lorne Doberthien R.R. 1 Acton. Mr. Doberthien's new name for the business comes from the initials of his two daughters, Lisa and Leann.

20 years ago

January 25, 1962

A 13-year-old rural boy, Ken Brown and local veterinarian Dr. Frank Oakes are receiving rabies shots. Rabid animals have been reported throughout the area and people are advised to take every precaution. Kenneth Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Brown, R.R. 2 Acton was bitten on the leg by his pet cat which attacked him New Year's Day.

Acton United Church may have a new and distinctive name. About 60 people attending the annual meeting of the congregation Wednesday evening decided to put 10 names previously suggested to a vote of members of the church. Names suggested were: St. Paul's United Church, St. Stephen's, St. Andrew's, St. John's, St. Jude's, St. James the Apostle, Grace, Trinity, First United Church and the present name, Acton United Church.

50 years ago

January 21, 1932

At the inaugural meeting of the School Board last evening at 7 o'clock, Trustees Mrs. B.M. Wilson, J.M. McDonald, Jas. Hudson, J.P. Scarrow and Dr. A.H. Buchanan were present. Trustees-elect Buchanan, Scarrow, and McDonald subscribed to the usual declaration of office.

The officers for the Acton Fall Fair 1932 are: president Chas. McKewen; first vice president R.J. Ramshaw; second vice president J.F. Robertson; directors, D.D. Waidie, G.W. Murray, L.L. Mullin, D. MacDougall, J.A. Mann, L.O. Johnston, George Somerville, S.H. Lindsay, J.E. Pearen, W.K. Graham, R.J. Kerr, G.A. Dills, V.B. Rumley, C. Woodhall, W.R. Norton, J.S. Davidson, J.M. McDonald, Mac Symon, W.H. Akins, J.J. Stewart, R.L. Davidson.

75 years ago

January 24, 1907

At the meeting of the Free Library Board, it was reported that 118 new volumes were purchased last year, and 3,505 books were issued during the year. The library now contains 2,350 volumes. The Bell Telephone Company are moving their exchange in Rockwood from Mr. J.M. Paamore's residence to the post office.

W.H. Smith of Acton was elected County Master of The Loyal Orange Association at the annual meeting. The celebration on the 12th of July will be in Georgetown this year.

The Merchants Bank is faithfully fulfilling all the demands the public put upon it, but there are periodically rumors another chartered bank is to open here. First it was the Traders Bank, then the Metropolitan Bank and now the new Farmers Bank.

Mr. Arthur Swackhammer and Miss Ina Grace Denny were married beneath an arch of holly and bells in the bride's home. After the wedding dinner the bridal couple left on the evening train for Hamilton. The presents were numerous and handsome.

100 years ago

January 26, 1882

The managers of Acton Skating Rink announce Family Tickets for \$5, gentlemen's \$2, ladies' \$1, skaters, one evening 10 cents, spectators, one evening, 5 cents.

Dr. McCulloch, the celebrated itinerant physician, may be consulted at Agnew's Hotel Jan. 25, by all who suffer from chronic lingering diseases such as consumption, bronchitis, asthma, affections of the throat and heart, nervous debility, dropsy, liver complaint, cancers in their worst stages treated without the use of a knife, fevers, agues, etc., etc.

A terrible double murder was committed near Cummingsville in Nelson township. Patrick Maher and his daughter Bridget were murdered by a man named Rourke, who had been paid for work on the farm, went to Nelson and got very drunk. Whiskey, as usual, was the cause. (The details extend well over a column of handset type in the four page paper.)

Our readers write Love, accept and challenge youth, don't accuse them

Dear Sir: In regard to last week's article, pinball arcade, I direct my comments to the statements made.

As I read the article, I was initially tempted to share the views put forth, but after a discussion with friends, have since altered my position. I believe there is another aspect of the problem which needs to be presented: Youth found in pinball arcades do not represent a problem, but instead, are often a symptom of a deeper problem not being dealt with in an effective way.

This controversy causes, or should cause the Christian community to take a close look at ourselves, to re-examine our witness as we proclaim and live out the Christian message. Are we reaching out effectively to those who are in desperate need of love, sense of self-

worth, and Purpose for living? Jesus came for the sick, not the healthy, (Matt. 9:12). He ate with tax collectors, prostitutes, and other neglected members of the community. If His love is to flow through us, should not we also be willing to reach out to those, who, for lack of alternatives, appear at pinball arcades?

Although pinball is being isolated, it is only one of many addictive pastimes which can cause one to become a poor steward of his time, money, talents, and thoughts.

Youth are our future, instead of accusing them, we need to love, accept, and challenge them.

Sincerely yours
Sandra Early
R.R. 1 Campbellville
Ont., L0P 1B0

Focus on needs of youth not on the pinball arcade

Dear Sir: All those concerned about our children being "lured away" from school and church by the pinball arcade are missing the real significance and challenge of this situation. They should be far more concerned with why the children stray than with whatever they happen to stray to. They remind me of the wife who blames an unsuccessful marriage on the beautiful mistress, rather than re-evaluating and improving the marriage.

At least John Simpson, the school principal, feels the arcade "wasn't to blame." He is right. Blaming the arcade is not only fallacious, it leads nowhere in solving the problem. However, Mr. Simpson goes on to say that the arcade "infringes on his right" to have the children in school. His right? Would he drag them bodily back to the school? What would that accomplish?

In a totalitarian country, the children could be dragged back to school; under such a government, the individual can be forced to meet the needs of the in-

stitution (and our schools, of course, need those children to be present.) In a free country, fortunately, it is the reverse: The institution must meet the needs of the individual, or the institution ceases to exist (there is already a growing trend across North America toward home education—despite all the legal and social obstacles.)

The human child is born with enormous curiosity and enthusiasm (just look at any one-year-old). It takes a great deal to dampen this enthusiasm, yet dampen it we do.

Instead of focusing on the arcade, those concerned should focus on the real issue, the needs of these youth. If school and church programs were interesting, creative, enjoyable, relevant, and challenging, no student would choose to leave. Here is a real opportunity for school and church people to re-evaluate their programs to better meet the needs of their most important members.

Sincerely,
Jan Hunt,
69 Kingham Rd.

Merchants responsible for cleaning, salting sidewalks

Dear Sir: Re: Snow removal downtown I have read with interest the letters to the editor and news stories regarding the recent controversy over snow removal.

If I may, I would like at this time to explain to your readership what part the local merchants play through the Business Improvement Area.

Once again this year we have contracted George Barnes and his tractor to remove the bulk of snow from the sidewalks. We have also contracted George Andrews to do the three parking

lots within the downtown area. However, with the amount of snow we have been receiving lately our efforts as the BIA have come under some criticism.

We, as a group, can only, at this point in time, push the bulk of snow out of the way for a path. The individual merchant I feel, is still responsible for cleaning down to the bricks and salting for your safety. If by chance this is not being done then blast that merchant personally.

Ed Wood,
Chairman, Acton BIA.



On the Leavell
With Helen

Acton's citizen of the year, Ron McKnight, and the The Acton Free Press are now known as far away as Dromore, Scotland.

Ron's mother, Joan, recently showed me a newspaper clipping taken from that town's local press, telling about Ron being named citizen of the year, and the extensive coverage provided by this newspaper.

Joan isn't sure, but she thinks Tom McKnight, Ron's uncle who was in Acton for this banquet last summer, from England was telling relatives back home about the do, and a reporter by the name of Harry McCandless got wind of it. One of the Dromore relatives, Mrs. Joyce McCandless, is mentioned, so maybe that is the connection.

Just like the Acton Free Press, the Dromore paper put local angle on the story, and published the article.

It states, "Dromore has a history of producing name-making sons, and although a little far-away removed, the town can claim a connection with the new 'Citizen of the Year' in the Canadian town of Acton, Ontario.

"He is Ron McKnight, whose grandfather, the late Mr. William McKnight, was a postman in Dromore and ran a shop in Rampart Street for about thirty years."

The article continued to say, "Mr. McKnight's son, James, who is still remembered, set sail for Canada in 1929 at the age of just over 15, and it is his son who has been honoured by his hometown." The story ended, "From the Old Country Down it's congrats, Ron!" Three pictures accompanied the story, one of Ron's uncle, Tom, one of his father James as he set sail for Canada, and one of his grandfather, William McKnight.

Both 500 Club winners this week are employed here in the Acton division of Metroland: 19, Tom Watson and 241 John Cunningham. Now that's a coincidence.

And a big bouquet goes out this week to Russel Johnson, 62, of 55 Church St. W., who has been spending his spare time lately helping downtown merchants shovel the snow off the sidewalks. Now that's good citizenship!

Don't forget the third annual Burns' Supper at A.C. Stewart Hall, Knox Presbyterian Church, this Saturday. There are still a few tickets left.

Happy anniversary to the crew over at Tyler Travel service. Today (Wednesday) marks the 10th anniversary of the business, started by Ted Tyler, Jr. In that time they have booked people to almost every part of the world.

Congratulations Ted and Delores. May the next 10 years be just as prosperous.

This month's issue of Induslink.

a newspaper for employees of Induslink Limited has a picture of Eileen Chong in it.

The picture, with a short story, is in a section of The Link which is devoted to introducing employees from various Induslink locations.

Eileen's story read: "From Head Office: Eileen Chong, intermediate accountant, joined the company in September, 1981. Eileen's responsibilities include preparing financial statements and reconciling general ledger accounts for Halton."

Get well wishes go out to Martha Jackson, of Mapleview Lodge who has been a patient in Guelph General Hospital with pneumonia.

Mrs. Jackson has become famous of late because of her 100th birthday in November, and her friendship with former Toronto Maple Leaf Darryl Sittler. She is happy Darryl finally was traded to the Philadelphia Flyers and says if he is happy, so is she. She has decided to continue being a Leaf fan, but will always be a Sittler fan too.

It just came to my attention last week that many people were upset because Mrs. Jackson has not been watching her hockey games because the set has to be turned up too loud. That statement was reported in my story about her 100th birthday.

Well, I'm glad to say it is inaccurate. Mrs. Jackson herself told me that, but I have recently been told by a couple of people that it is just not true. She still watches the games on both Saturday Wednesday nights, and in fact, many of the other Lodge residents sit and watch it with her.

Only once was Mrs. Jackson asked to

turn the television down, and that was because another resident was gravely ill. It was this incident she must have been referring to.

Weather permitting, the Halton Helping Hands will hold a staff-volunteer meeting Wednesday, February 3 at 8 p.m. at 164 Guelph St., Georgetown, in the old Fobert offices. Anyone wishing to attend may do so, and new volunteers are most welcome. For more information, call 873-1177.

MEANDERINGS by Mabel Barkman

Perhaps it is all the frosting at Christmas and New Year's that makes the tummy rebel. "Please", it says, "give me something that is comforting."

So, we revert to our childhood and think of things we had that were really simple, but, oh, so good.

Every person has his or her own favorite and by now memory is bringing it back. I usually have bread and hot milk with brown sugar. My husband likes waffles broken into a bowl with sweetened hot milk added. I remember my mother giving me soda biscuits in a bowl, with boiling water poured on and then off, sprinkling them with white sugar and adding warm milk. Tea with plain, hot biscuits is consoling too.

Summer's iced tea-mix can be used now with boiling water and it seems to banish the over-stuffed feeling.

Go ahead, indulge yourself and you will find it satisfying and probably not very expensive.

Clergy Comment

by Rev. Arthur Tribe
Love, joy, peace, freedom, fulfillment.

The modern world promises us all these things if we will follow its rules for success. To be assured of real love, for example, we are told to experiment. Test, try until you find the one who satisfies you most. Joy is achieved when I'm high-feeeling no inhibitions, no restrictions. Peace? That's when there's nothing hassling me, when I have everything I want. Fulfillment comes when I've done what I want to do, when I want to do it. The things I had to do to get there or the people I had to step on to achieve it are of little or no consequence.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ also promises love, joy, peace, freedom, and fulfillment. Yet it tells us we cannot have such gifts without self-sacrifice, discipline, and obedience to God's law. The Gospel promises all that we desire, but in a way far different from and often contradictory to the way the world holds out to us.

FREEDOM: "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free," says Jesus. (Gospel of John). What is the truth that makes us free? It is Jesus Christ himself, the Savior. He is the truth, the Word made flesh who dwells amongst us. Whoever will sacrifice his own way, his need to control his life, and take the risk of believing God's word will find that the promise is fulfilled.

LOVE: Today people speak of love

as a feeling. It is warm fuzzles. Love puts me in a spin, etc., but they are hardly the basic definition. Paul said in his letter to the church at Corinth: "Love is patient and kind; love is not jealous or boastful; it is not arrogant or rude. Love does not insist on its own way... but rejoices in the right. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things". Of course, we cannot do this by mere human willpower. But when the Spirit of God living within us empowers us—we are driven by a godly force which enables us to love in strong, courageous, powerful ways.

JOY: When Jesus finished speaking to his disciples about his love for the Father and for them and of his challenge to them to do likewise, he said, "These things I have spoken to you that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be full" (John 15:11) Jesus knew what true joy was: It was found in doing the Father's will. There lies our joy.

PEACE: Today many people are searching for peace. Yoga, Mind Control, Transcendental Meditation, drugs, alcohol—all these hold out vague, brief promises of peace. But it never really comes. Escape from reality is just running. How do we receive and experience the peace of Jesus? Those who live a life in obedience to God's Holy Word will know peace, quietness, and trust forever. The truth of God will make you free. (John 8:32). Commit your lives to it. And no one shall take it from you.