

# The Acton Free Press

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Business and Editorial Office

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## Town should investigate parking garage for Acton

Before the municipality has the town hall torn down and the land paved over or spends a dime acquiring property on Church St. for downtown parking some kind of inexpensive study should be launched to see if it wouldn't be more economical to solve Acton's long range parking problems by going up and down.

A Free Press staffer was talking to a prominent resident the other day who wishes to remain anonymous, but posed what we think is a crackerjack idea, a parking garage for downtown. Suffice to say the citizen who hatched the notion is a leading businessman, once held a political position in Acton, and has nothing really to gain if this proposal materialises.

In discussing the fact that the town and Business Improvement Area are looking at investing substantial funds over the next 20 years in providing off-street parking behind stores on the north and south sides of Mill St. this resident suggested the answer would be to go up on just one side. He predicted the cost of acquiring one site and building several levels of parking would be considerably less than buying three sites and paving three one level parking lots.

The idea is certainly worth investigating.

Conversation turned to the eventual use of the town hall land, should council decide to tear the building down, which happened Monday night.

This site won't provide very many parking spots, and we don't know if there would be enough land to allow for ramps to be built to take cars to say two levels above the ground floor and two below for a parking garage.

However, considering the fact there is going to be a rather odd looking facade staring out on Willow St. from the one side of the fire hall once the town hall is gone we think some kind of inexpensive structure which would also be functional in solving a local problem for several years to come is well worth investigating. A parking garage on this site could be built to look probably not pleasing, but passable.

If councillors take this suggestion under consideration we hope it won't require the hiring of an expensive consultant. Surely the town engineers could look at the possibility, seeking the advice of some local contractors, and determine if a parking garage anywhere downtown would be an attractive economical option.

## Clergy Comment

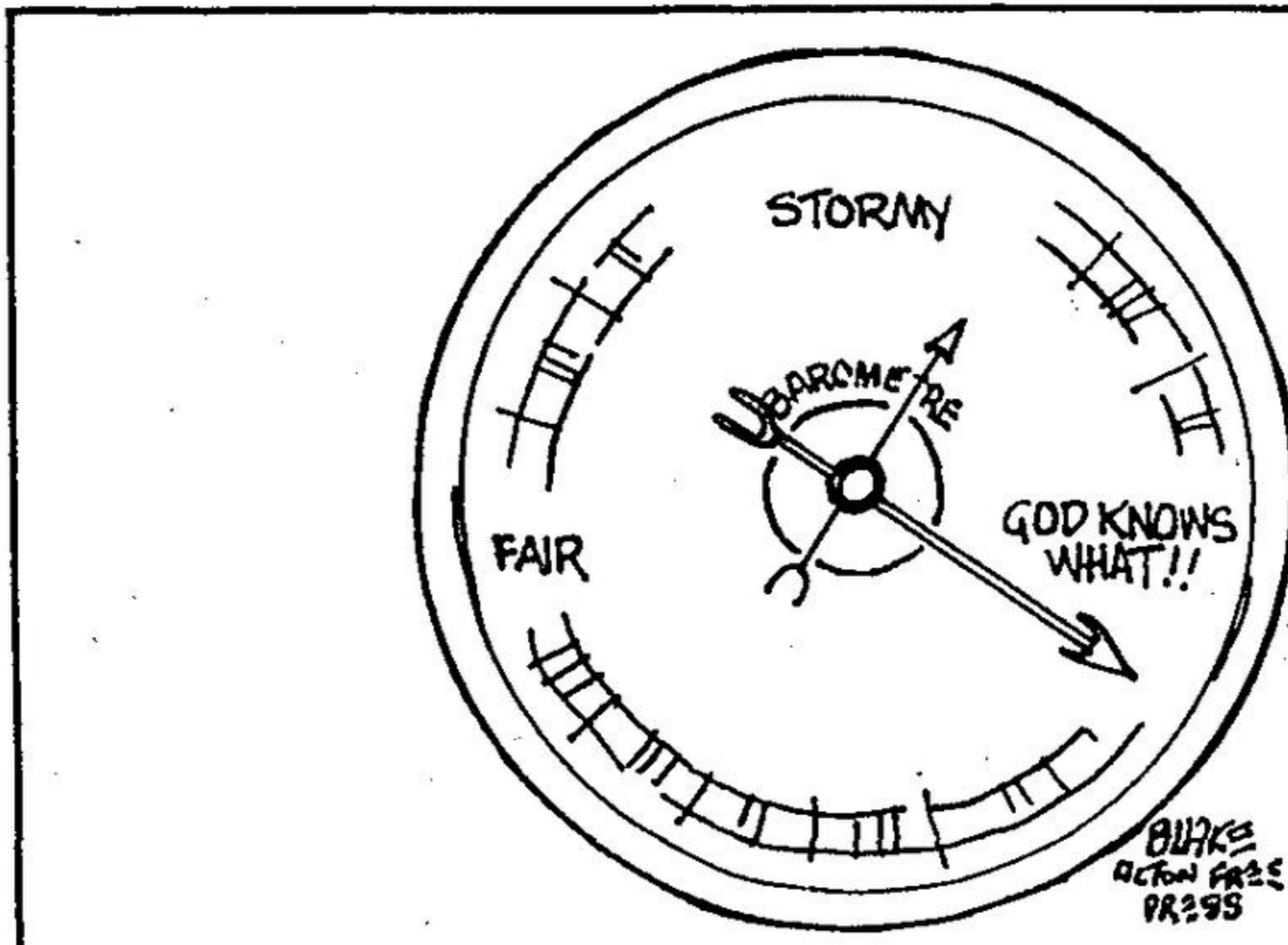
by Pastor Jean Stairs  
Easter has become, to a large extent, a cultural phenomenon within our society. Barely has Valentine's Day passed when department store shelves begin to display - Easter merchandise. Cream-filled eggs, fuzzy stuffed animals, greeting cards, spring attire, and various sizes and shapes of chocolate bunnies begin to hop into the lives of children and adults alike. We find ourselves captivated by magical thoughts of butterflies, daffodils, green grass and lengthening days, and we anticipate with eagerness the veritable springtime of our souls.  
I know that I find myself happily humming Irving Berlin's well-known song "The Easter Parade" when I hear it played on the radio each year at this time. There is something exhilarating about the thought of getting ready for spring, even if it involves nothing more than donning new or lighter clothes. And if you add to that the festive trappings that have become attached to the season, you can find yourself sharing in a time of general social observation centering around the final loosening of the grip of winter as we preparing to move into the gladness and anticipation of spring. But Easter is more than cultural. It is more than a time of seasonal transition. Easter is theological and it marks an occasion of personal transition. Easter is based on the fact that God has come right down to the deepest level of where we live.  
C. S. Lewis, in one of his essays in his book *God in the Dock*, commented about what it meant that Jesus Christ gave Himself to endure suffering and death and that He then was raised mightily from the grave. Lewis expressed himself this way: "God has come down into the created universe, down to humanity—and has come up again, pulling it up with Him."  
God has known and has shared our human condition, and has walked

the way we must go. But more than that, Jesus Christ was raised from the dead, and has thereby given us the hope of a personal transformation.  
The road does not just go down, pointing out "the way to a dusty death." It goes up, pointing out the way to newness of life and hope; a newness that can begin now and that will culminate in our experience of resurrection and Christ's final triumph.  
Easter, therefore, is a theological celebration. It is not just the thankful observance of an anniversary of something that happened nearly two thousand years ago. It is a joyful participation in a present, ongoing reality. Easter vitalizes us, it increases our awareness of God's presence in human lives, and it establishes hope of a new creation, a new world of new people "Through the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead."  
No wonder, then, that the Apostle Paul, catching sight of this truth, exclaimed the way he did: "O that I might know and share the power of the risen Christ in my life!"  
No wonder, either, that writer Gerry Harrop captured the significance of Easter as an every day event in the words of his new Easter Hymn:  
Proclamation! Proclamation!  
Tell the news throughout the earth,  
Jesus Christ our living Master  
Brings new faith, new hope, new birth.  
Long the night of sin had settled,  
Told the power of death held sway,  
Tell the world that they are conquered,  
Life's forever Easter day.  
Resurrection! Resurrection!  
Is the life for us today:  
For with Christ we too have risen,  
Sin and death have passed away.  
Easter morn's forever dawning,  
Easter joy breaks forth anew,  
Jesus Christ our Lord is living  
Resurrection faith is true.

## Our readers write Thank tourney supporters

Dear Sir:  
I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the hockey players, parents and hockey fans who attended the Centennial Atom Hockey Tournament. With the great support you showed our tournament once again had a successful year.  
Special thanks goes out to Acton Jr. Sabres, Acton Referee's Assoc., St. John's Ambulance, ice time sponsors and all our support helpers who worked throughout the tournament to help make it a successful weekend.

I've waited until last to thank the tournament committee. Without their long hours of work over the past months the tournament would not have got off the ground. Mollie and Frank Allsop, Carol and Bob Smith, Joan Yalowica, Jackie Phelan, Joan Knight, Harold Townsley, Bill Colson, keep up the good work, the 1983 season is just around the corner.  
Thank you  
Bill Knight  
Tournament Chairman



## On the Leavell

With Helen

Ever notice in your hydro bill on the brown return envelope is addressed to the Georgetown office of Halton Hills Hydro. And when you go to telephone, you dial a Georgetown number. All this has led some people to be under the incorrect impression that the Acton office is closed. Not true. The office is operating as usual and able to accept payment of bills.

Halton Women's Place can help. If you are emotionally or physically abused, they can offer you a safe and supportive alternative to your present life. They provide 24-hour crisis information and referrals, and the shelter in Milton provides temporary accommodation, clothing and meals.  
If you need to talk, call 878-8555.

The Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department is offering a Red Cross Learn to Swim Program for people aged 5 to 96. Lifesaving classes sponsored by the Royal Life Saving Society will also be held as will Parent and Tot classes. The Red Cross Standard First Aid course covering procedures that could save lives will take place again this spring. Springboard diving lessons are being offered at the pool on Wednesday for adults and on Thursdays for younger divers.  
Synchronized swimming is also on the agenda.

Special events coming up this spring include a backyard pool owners workshop next month, a National Lifeguard Course in May, a Red Cross Small Craft Safety Course in June and an Adapted Aquatics Instructor Course, also in June.  
Children can gear up for the pre-school playshop, and the annual Easter party April 13 and a Spring Walk sometime in May.  
Jazz for Juniors is returning, as is the Gymnastics and Kinderym.  
Fitness and Swim is slated for Monday evenings and Fitness and Dance Wednesdays.  
Tennis enthusiasts can limber up at an indoor tennis program Tuesdays and tennis lessons will begin May 10. Roller-skating will return for another season the week of May 17.

Seems former Actonians are making the news lately.  
The March 21 issue of the Toronto Sun carried a long story and photo of Bob and Christell Main, now of Edmonton. Seems the couple are expecting babies soon. Not one or two. They're going all out. Quadruplets are expected for Pop Main's son and his wife.  
The couple adopted a little boy in 1977 and a little girl last August. Ultrasound revealed there were four babies, instead of the one expected.

The Acton library still has openings in the Tuesday afternoon pre-school story time session. Call the library for more information. For those unable to find the library's telephone number in the book, look under town of Halton Hills, page 8 of the blue pages.

Mrs. Marilyn Agg, 1427 Constance Dr., Oakville is compiling a history of 20 years of Guiding in the White Oaks area, of which Acton is a member. It is hoped a book can be published in the fall.  
Mrs. Agg would appreciate hearing from anyone who can help her with the following information: memories of former and present members of the White Oaks area; reminiscences of people who attended special events such as International trips both in and outside Canada; past White Oaks area council members and office

staff over the years; types of uniforms that have been worn over the past 20 years; old records or pictures; any unusual or amusing incidents; brief history of local divisions; districts, units, or associations, and names and addresses and telephone numbers of people any readers are still in contact with.

Acton has got another winner. Scott Nowlan won the Optimist Zone Oratorical Contest in Milton on Sunday. He now advances to the district level May 1 in Ottawa. Scott and Maria Krul represented the Acton Optimist Club.

Keith Grimshaw, a high ranking educator from Great Britain was a special guest at councillor's drop-in Friday. He and eight others from Great Britain are studying Ontario's school system for two weeks and four visited Halton last week.

It's good to see Arlene Bruce up and around after her bad accident. Arlene, Acton's representative on Halton Board of Education, managed to attend councillors' drop in Friday. That's what I call dedication to constituents.

Former Actonian and Free Press sports editor Denis Gibbons is vice-president public relations of the Catholic Single Adults (Diocese of Hamilton). Denis' group will hold their monthly dance Saturday, April 24 at 8 p.m. in St. Joseph's Parish Hall on Herkimer St. in Hamilton. For further information call 632-6101.

Work by Acton High School students will be included in Art Sparks, a regional art exhibition, April 15 to 30. The show will be held at the Halton Hills Library and Cultural Centre.

I don't know how I do it, I'm either a great person, or gullible as heck—I'm leaning towards gullible.

I went down to the arena on Sunday to take pictures of the Rotary Skate-a-thon. Little did I know I would end up on the ice, for the first time in 14 years, and raise over \$40 for the cause.

My publisher had me saying—Sure I'd go out on the ice to skate—but wasn't it too bad there were no skates my size around. Enter 11-year-old Kevin Grubbe. Naturally we just had to take the same size shoes.

With one obstacle overcome, I decided I couldn't go out on the ice with no sponsors—thanks guys.

Within five minutes I had collected \$39 cash, and another \$5 in pledges. No excuses now—I was committed.

With Steven Sojka on one arm and Jodie McFarlane on the other, I made my Acton skating debut. After I fell several times Steven pointed out boys' skates had no picks at the end of blade. That had been my downfall—so to speak. My new found information helped my co-ordination, but not my pride. I continued to fall, crash, plummet—Is there a nice way to say I was a klutz.

But all in all, bruised rear and knees aside, I had a great time. They say I made

enough money for an Adidas bag. I'll pass thank you. I left my athletic days in Collingwood.

Ouch.

Rick Bonnette of Acton Travel is excited about the new generation of travel agent born on Monday.

Rick's right hand person Elaine Petkoff (nee Foster) became the mother of a son Joel, eight pounds, some odd ounces. Rumor has it Rick's already cleared a desk for Joel to start selling plane tickets. Once Joel hears some of Bonnette's jokes he's going to wish his mother had taken up another line of work.

The years 1982 to 1984 have been designated the years of "Anglicans in Mission".

The symbol of the five pointed star has been chosen by the five Halton Hills area Anglican Churches: St. Alban's, St. George's, St. John's, St. Paul's, and St. Stephen's as representative of these five churches separate but with one common centre—the Father—reaching out to friends, neighbors and everyone to share the Good News.

To this end the five churches are holding joint evening services one Sunday of every month. These services take place at each church in turn, the next one being May 9 at St. Stephen's, 1480 Steeles Ave., Hornby.

As a culmination of Lenten programmes concerning Anglicans in Mission a Celebration of Mission will be held in Georgetown on Sunday, April 18, at 7 p.m. in Holy Cross Church, Maple Ave. Archbishop Edward Scott will be guest speaker and celebrant. Archbishop Scott, who is also moderator of the Central Committee of the world Council of Churches, will join the congregation for coffee and conversation in the church hall following the service.

The five area Anglican Churches invite all their neighbors to join them in this joyful celebration of friendship.

MEANDERINGS  
by Mabel Barkman  
Paska

I have found that the best container to make this Russian Easter bread is an angel cake tin. So grease one well and set aside. Now scald one cup of milk and cool to lukewarm.

Dissolve a tablespoon of yeast in a quarter cup of warm water with a teaspoon of sugar. Let set about ten minutes, stir down and add to cooled milk with one cup of flour. Beat well and set sponge to rise in a warm place until double. Now in another large bowl beat one cup butter until soft and add 1/2 cup white sugar gradually. Beat in one at a time five eggs. Add the sponge, three more cups of flour, a half teaspoon of salt, a half teaspoon grated lemon rind and one tap. vanilla. Beat all of this well.

Now put in angel cake tin and let rise until almost double. Bake about 50 minutes at 350. While still warm ice with soft butter icing and let dribble over edges. Decorate with jelly beans or colored shot.

This rich bread can be served with the Easter dinner and afterwards for breakfast if there is any left.

## Back issues 10 years ago

April 5, 1972  
A very young skater, Kevin Parker, 10, placed third in the juvenile division at the Ontario spring championships in North Bay on the weekend.

He received a bronze medal for his third place finish in freeskating. There were competitors from the U.S. as well as Canada.

Wherever you go, someone has heard of Acton's bid for the Grey Cup game. Curlers at Grand Valley and Dutch-Canadian club members both mentioned the scheme with amusement.

The boa constrictor, pictured with Paul Nielsen in the Free Press March 15, is now a resident guest at the Acton High School.

Beginning April 1, postage had to be put on all letters to federal government departments and agencies. And those departments will have to put stamps on its letters. But we can still send a letter to our member of parliament without charge.

## 20 years ago

April 5, 1962  
Over 2,275 envelopes containing Easter Seals, an appeal letter and a blank cheque were stuffed by Rotarians Tuesday evening prior to their annual Easter Seal appeal as the project reached high gear.

Sunday, April 1, saw daffodils in every church in Acton—the gift of the local Branch of the Canadian Cancer Society.

When the Rangers met Monday at the home of Mrs. J. Barr in Glenlea, they decided to go to Stratford together to see *The Taming of the Shrew*.

The 44th anniversary of the founding of the Lakeside chapter, IOOE, is being celebrated at a dance in the Legion Hall, Friday evening. Red, white and blue will be the predominant colors for the gay decorations.

Acton Firefighters scarcely had time to catch their breath between racing to four fires within a 48 hour period during the weekend when they fought three grass fires and one car fire from Saturday afternoon until Sunday evening.

## 50 years ago

March 31, 1932  
The regular meeting of the Duke of Devonshire Chapter of the IOOE will be held on Thursday evening April 5, at eight o'clock, at the home of Mrs. W. M. Cooper, Main Street.

The Government has had under consideration for several years the question of reducing the size of the Canadian dollar bills, informed Oscar L. Boulanger (Liberal, Bellechasse), in the House of Commons on Tuesday. No decision had yet been reached.

March of 1932 came in like a lamb and went out in the same meekness, but my, how it roared in between the bleats.

The shoe factory and the glove factory hockey teams played a game last Thursday at the arena, which resulted in a 6-5 victory for the shoers over the glovers. There were some rough periods in the affair.

## 75 years ago

April 4, 1907  
Visitors in and from town were numerous on Easter Sunday. The cold interfered considerably with the appearance of the new Easter costumes and millinery.

Mr. R. N. Brown believes he can head the list with spring lambs. He has a Leicester ram lamb three weeks old.

The dust is flying again. The street sprinklers will need to be put in commission.

The members of the Young Men's Association entertained the young ladies of the Epworth League in their rooms. There were songs, speeches, games and social intercourse, and the young men served refreshments.

Greenock Literary Society had its final meeting of the season, and resumes again in November. \$37 was voted for the purchase of books for the library. A hearty vote of thanks was given to president H. C. Currie.

## 100 years ago

March 30, 1882  
Tenders are asked for the erection of the new school house for section No. 12, formed by the withdrawal of the rural portion from Acton School Division. The school will be on the south-west corner of Mr. Chas. Davidson's farm and will be of substantial red brick.

Why in the name of common sense should any person who is doing well in Ontario rush off to Manitoba? The mania has taken from this province thousands of good customers.

The semi-annual season of house-cleaning comes on apace and the enterprising house-keeper has already outlined the plan.

The band stand has been removed from Willow St. We hope it will be erected again in some central place in town.

The material for the new town hall is being laid on the ground.  
Mr. Angus McDonald, who is 105 years old, has moved from Acton to Uxbridge.



AMHA president Bruce Cargill presents Harold McKendry the keys to this year's top prize, a new car, in the 500 Club final draw. Harold's wife Marlene and 500 Club ticket sellers Bob Smith and Pete Van Dam look on. Other winners in the final draw for \$100 were Carol Campbell, Carl Timbers, D. Rogers, Jack Ridley and Bruce Cargill for selling the winning ticket for the car. \$50 winners were J. Buchanan, Ken Slaney, H. Coles, K. Hostons, Doug Leblinger and Larry Porte. Saturday morning winners for \$50 were tickets 297 D. Rogers and 150 Jim Gibson.