

On the Leavell

With Helen



Acton Co-op Nursery gained an artificial Christmas tree after the recent Santa Claus parade.

It seems at the last minute, they ended up with an extra tree, which was left over when the float was later dismantled. Cathy Cripps called to say she has talked to all the Co-op mothers who participated, and the parade marshals, but no one has reported a missing tree. She thinks it was put on the float by mistake, and she is worried someone is not going to have a Christmas tree.

Whoever the tree belongs to can call her at 853-2882.

Beverly Whatmough of Brookville school recently attended a conference hosted by the Federation of Women Teachers' Associations of Ontario. It was entitled "Help! The Microcomputers are Coming!"

Every participant had the opportunity for a session on getting to know the computer, as well as attending workshops dealing with microcomputers and the exceptional

students, evaluation of computer software, graphics, Telidon and the uses of the microcomputer in the educational office and as a home appliance.

Parents and students in Acton can help in bringing a bit of joy to those less fortunate by helping the IOBE and the Rotary Club in their Christmas grocery drive. Schools are encouraging students to bring dry grocery items to their schools which will be collected by the Rotary Club on Thursday, December 16.

Mothers interested in information about breast-feeding are welcome to attend the next meeting of the La Leche League of Acton. It will be held on Monday at 8 p.m. For further information call 878-4732 or 854-8935.

All women who have attended L.L.L. meetings in Acton or who had phone contact with a leader during the League's three and a half years in Acton are cordially invited with their husbands and children to a Christmas Open House at the home of Glen and Sharon Duff and family RR 2 Rockwood on Sunday, December 19 from 2 to 5 p.m.

From this Sunday until December 29, Canadian Heavyweights will be featured at the Excursions Gallery, and Halton Glass Studio in the old Hide House.

Canadian Heavyweights is a special

event consisting of a full day of paper-weight making demonstrations at Halton Glass Studio by resident and visiting glass artists and an outstanding national exhibition with over 25 participating artists from across Canada.

Paperweights have been highly prized and collected in the history of glassmaking. Now for the first time, local residents will be able to witness many of the obscure techniques used in this art form to create the fantastic and puzzling visual illusions as executed by artists from Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and Alberta.

Halton Glass Studio, in the Artisan Village is home to artists Peter Keogh, Robin Fineberg, Tony Lee and Kathy Wood. Keogh teaches sculpture, semi-hot and cold working techniques at Sheridan College in Mississauga.

500 Club winners for this week were: 189, Dr. Jane Hosdill; 274, Alf Roach; 488 Bruce Chapman; 417, Bob Lazenby; 287, Bill Syme.

Pierre Boisvenue, Milton, won a food hamper in the Acton Co-op Nursery draw recently.

Letters to Santa can be dropped off at the Free Press and we'll forward them to the North Pole.

Canvasser is not with 'Army'

Acton Residents' generosity was taken advantage of last Thursday when a teenager went canvassing door-to-door for the Salvation Army. This was not sanctioned by the Army, nor is it a practiced method of raising money.

Envoy Douglas Vale said the girl was in the Peel and Arthur Streets area asking for donations for their Christmas projects. He stressed that the only way at this time of year money is raised is by the Christmas Cheer kettles placed at various locations around town.

Yvonne Male, of the Salvation Army Thrift Shop, was first brought to light of the canvasser when a customer came in to the store and said they have given money at the door. The girl, about 16 or 17-years-old with red hair and smartly dressed; had a box on a string around her neck which read Sally Ann. Mrs. Male pointed out the Salvation Army do not like that name and anyone who knew this would have been suspicious. She also pointed out that any canvasser in civilian clothes would be accompanied by someone in a uniform.

Envoy Vale noted his group does canvass door-to-door at Red Shield time, but only then.

Mrs. Male said the person who donated money noticed the girl had collected a lot of money.

From the editor's desk...

(Continued from Page 4)

Hindsight is 20/20, but I think after they took the straw vote and the price of \$650,000 had been settled in September, council should have made everything it had, including the fact they are operating somewhat on feelings and not totally hard facts, public. They could have explained the situation to date well before the campaign was underway. Of course that might well have meant all their efforts would go down the drain for political considerations, but wouldn't that have been preferable to the appearance that they all participated in a deception of the public.

Or they might have tried putting all the cards, all of their facts and feelings about this issue, on the table on November 22 so people weren't finding things out a few pieces at a time. But again hindsight is great, eh!

Now it would appear likely it will be very difficult for councillors to ever sell their proposal to the public.

no matter how valid the idea may turn out to be. The building might still be built, but will it have the confidence of the majority?

Wittingly or unwittingly all the incumbents have tarnished their images. It looks like they neglected to talk about all of the potential issues facing them in the new term when they were out seeking support for another.

We don't mind in-camera sessions when you're negotiating to buy property, it makes sense, but once you've settled on a price, the easiest way to avoid future hassles and suspicions is to make the situation public as soon as possible.

Letters to editor are welcome. Keep them brief.



Former Actonians Rev. and Mrs. Andy McKenzie returned to Acton last week to celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary. The couple, now of Perth, were married in Egmondville United Church, in Seaford on October 17, 1942. They held an open house at Knox Presbyterian Church on Friday.

St. Joseph's School opens officially Wed.

Plans have been finalized for the big official opening of St. Joseph's School set for one week from tonight, Wednesday December 15 at 7:30 p.m.

Trustee Irene McCauley will give opening remarks before Bishop Paul Keding tours the school blessing the classrooms and religious articles. He will be accompanied on his tour by the Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus from Oakville as well as two members of the Acton Knights of Columbus.

During the tour and blessings children will be singing in the gym.

Later various dignitaries will be introduced and make remarks followed by the presentation of the keys to the school to principal Fred Springer and the chairman of the board by the contractor and architect.

There will be more musical selections by the children of St. Joseph's followed by a reception. Refreshments will be served to adults in the library while the children gather in one of the classrooms.

Residents protest complex in petition

Almost 150 Acton and area residents have signed a petition protesting the whole municipal complex issue which erupted late last month.

Following is the text of the petition which was distributed to 11 local businesses Thursday and Friday.

"We the undersigned citizens of Halton Hills petition the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Hon. Claude Bennett, to investigate certain actions taken by council for the Town of Halton Hills at its meeting on Monday, November 22, 1982.

"At that final meeting of the 1980-82, council by a vote of 10 to 1 endorsed placing a \$10,000 deposit on a piece of property known as the Stevens' estate in Georgetown as a possible site for a future municipal administration centre or complex.

"This was the first public announcement of this proposal, though councillors admitted the proposal had been discussed in-camera for several months prior to November 22, 1982. This decision was made by a lame duck council, less than three-quarters of the members of that council will sit on the 1982-85 council for the Town of Halton Hills. None of the incumbent council candidates revealed this proposal during the campaign prior to the November 8, 1982, municipal election. The new council wasn't sworn in until December 6, 1982.

"In light of the provisions of section 108 of the Ontario Municipal Act, was this action legal?"

The protest was "initiated" by Bill Cook, a life-long Acton resident who said he became concerned with the municipal complex issue as soon as he learned Halton Hills council had put down the deposit. He said he "immediately wondered why it wasn't brought up as an issue during the election, when it looks like it could have been an issue."

He said he also found there were other people annoyed with council's actions, so after learning citizens could petition for an investigation he started the petition. This isn't the first time Cook has been buying trying to get a message across to councillors, he recalled he has attended council drop-in frequently to raise issues like education spending and stitches in Glenora.

Since starting his petition Cook said he has heard many comments about this issue from citizens. Besides being upset that incumbent councillors didn't mention the municipal com-

Our readers write

Last words from the deer hunt opposition

Dear sir: As concerned residents, we would like to direct this letter, respectfully, to your Outdoor columnist, and to the general public.

"And so the saga of Hunting in Halton continues." Brace yourselves, as we have a few last words, at least for now. No matter how stories get mis-told, mis-interpreted, or who did what, where and why, it is all reflecting the utter confusion of the issue in question.

Since this is a sensitive subject for all those parties concerned, sarcasm and semantics have drastically distorted the situation. This bantering back and forth for everyone concerned, is tiring, distressing, and ridiculous. The fact remains, that it is not a question of "good or bad hunters" or "the poor deer", but clearly, public safety!

Surely, the point that the "caller in question" as referred to last week, was trying to make, was that if our rural area is so built up, as to have houses every 300-400 feet apart, with school children standing along the road waiting for the school bus, this does not support a safe area conducive for hunting.

Unfortunately, urban sprawl has forced our rural area out of our yester-year traditions, into modern

day lifestyles. On our rural line alone, there has been an approval for a 60-home subdivision. How can we all honestly say that Halton Hills can secure the safety of hunting? The reason that deer hunting has been opposed over smaller game hunting, is that the deer hunter requires a much gauged shot, (a rifled slug), therefore, it is much more dangerous and lethal than its counterpart.

We have not, and cannot disagree with hunting in the proper place. But we maintain that our Region is too built up now to support this activity. Hunting is a privilege, not a right. Yet, it is our right to protect the safety of our family, friends and livestock. We are not opposing hunting in our area out of boredom, but sincerely because we feel strongly about the issue. The hunting society makes it "our business", as the hunt jeopardizes the safety of our fellow residents. We are regretful for any personal "bad feelings", but we too have the right to assert our opinions.

Bruce and Debbie Kilmer Bill and Pauline Marland The Deer Hunt Opposition The 1,000 petitioners who support us All whose names are too numerous to mention

Jodie readying for home...

(Continued from Page 1) the line while she was making friends, or participating in Biathlons, or speaking on the radio or appearing on television. But somewhere along Jodie's outlook on life

changed. "With freedom and independence, you mature a lot, especially in relating with other people," she surmises. "I can appreciate my family after being away for so long, and you value the way very different countries live."

But in the past 11 months, Jodie has learned that basically people are the same no matter where she is. Canadians and Australians are the same, both value sports and beer, she has noticed. And even though she can't see squirrels and Maple trees at home, and the water goes down the bathtub drain in the opposite direction, the countries are basically the same.

Jodie starts the trip home on January 3, flying first Calgary, and taking the bus to Vancouver. From there she flies to San Francisco where she plans to stay at the Rotary sister city to Chelsea. By January 13 she arrives home, where, she admits, it will take a while to get used to.

But Jodie plans to return to Canada. After graduating from grade 12 next December, she is considering getting a job as a winter ski patrol. That way she will have Australian summers (Canada's winter) off and will be able to return to Canada.

After her year in Acton, Jodie wonders why she was so apprehensive when she first arrived. She knows had she gone to another town, or even another country, she wouldn't have met the Cooks, or the Manes, Arnolds and McDonalds. But there would have been others who would have been just as special as her families. But she's glad fate threw her together with her Acton friends. She'll miss them.

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