

Expect 12,000 to 15,000 at 70th fall fair

Twelve to 15,000 people are expected through the gates at Prospect Park this weekend for the 70th annual Acton Fall Fair.

Three fun-packed days are planned with everything from a bird dance to a rooster crowing competition, and with something for all ages.

The Arabian Horse Show at 10 a.m. Friday kicks off the festivities. The midway opens at noon and by 4 p.m. the poultry exhibits will be ready. The rooster crowing competition, a repeat of last year's success, gets underway at 6.15.

The heavy horse pull will be at 6.45 and at 7.30 the Acton Citizen's Band will be playing in the arena. Half an hour later the fair will be officially opened. At the same time the floor exhibits in the arena will be greatly admired.

Outside the hog carcass display will be

ready also, at 8.

A family entertainment variety show will follow the official opening, with the judging of the Miss Acton Fair, 1983.

A special treat has been planned for the 20th anniversary of the Miss Acton contest according to organizer Maggie Hall. Many of the former winners will be returning to the stage. As for this year's show, already there are several entrants.

At 9 a.m. the next morning the gates are opened once again. The midway will add the familiar noises, and early birds can take in the Carlsburg Hitch, the English Pony Show, harness ponies, the light horse show and the outdoor exhibits including new model cars, farm equipment, community service groups and displays and commercial exhibits. The hall exhibits and displays are also open at 9 a.m.

The cattle show begins at 11 a.m. Beef steers, junior show, junior and senior showmanship, Hereford, Shorthorn, Angus and other beef brands will be on hand.

At noon, the tug-o-war and pioneer games registration will take place, but elsewhere in town at the same time is the annual fair parade. Children are encouraged to decorate their bikes or other toys and be at McKenzie-Smith Middle School at 11.30. The many floats and six bands will leave the school at noon and continue down Mill St. for hundreds of parade lovers to see.

The ever-popular baby show will get underway at 1.30 in the arena.

Also beginning at 1.30 are the Sheep Show, Poultry Show and Spot-in-the-Park.

At 3.00 the all new bird dance competition will be held on the track. Those taking part in the popular polka are asked to come in

bird costumes. Cash prizes will be awarded.

The swine carcass auction will be held at 4.30 and Leathersport Moto Cross Club will have an exhibit.

There is no old time fiddlers contest this year. Spokesperson for the fair Jennifer Alton explained the competition of other fall fairs has been attracting participants away from Acton. Because of this, Mrs. Alton said, it was decided to give it a rest here for at least this year.

After being held elsewhere for the past few years, the Fair Dance is returning to the arena this year. It begins at 9 p.m.

The rabbit and cavies show, sanctioned by the Dominion Rabbit Breeders Association starts off Sunday at 11 a.m. The midway is turned on at noon and the English and Western horse shows get underway then as does the dairy show. The model boat races begin

at noon also.

The popular pet show, for those 15 and under, begins at 1 p.m., along with the antique tractor pull and the 4x4 truck pull.

The Challenge of the Acton Stars begins in the arena at 2 p.m. and at 2.30 the presentation of awards to the Ladies' section begins.

Mrs. Alton points out response from exhibitors and participants has been very good, with entries from as far away as Peterborough and Oshawa.

For those who don't like to wrestle traffic, a free bus will be going around town every hour to bring more people to the fair or take weary walkers home.

To borrow a popular teenage phrase—"Be there or be square!"

Ladies' fair board

Ready for 70th fair

by Leslie Johnston

Our monthly meeting was recently held at the home of Mrs. Sherrill Macpherson.

After such a long lovely summer we finally have to buckle down for a busy time of year. Great plans are in the making for the 70th annual Acton Fall Fair.

The Ladies Division of the Fair Board are again entering a float in the Fair parade. The theme will centre around the year 1913, therefore a call is made to anyone who has any artifacts from this era pertaining to homecrafts. If you wish to have further information concerning the float, please contact Mrs. Janet Marshall

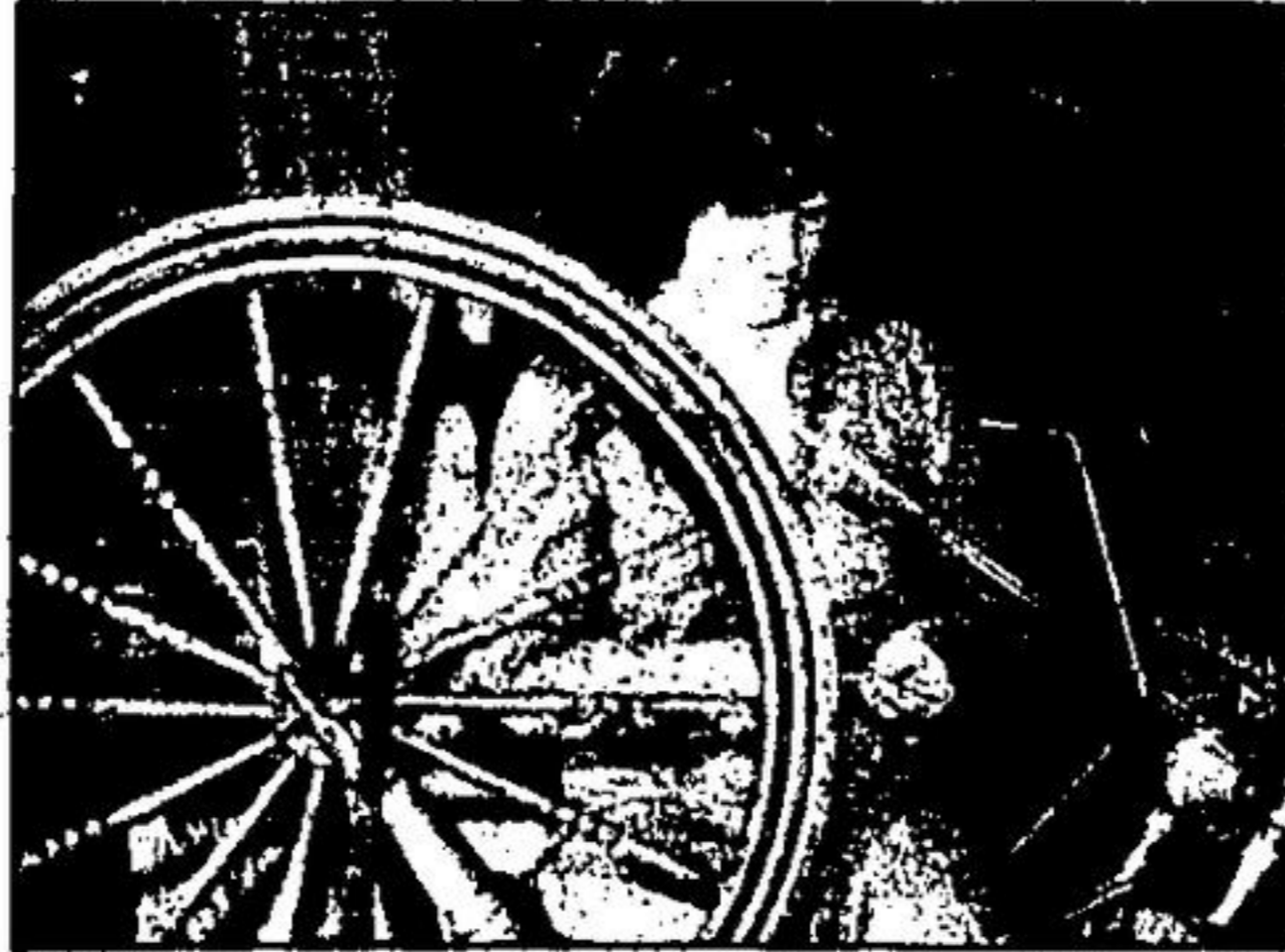
853-2964.

The Ladies' Fair Board also wishes to remind all mothers of our Baby Show on Fair Saturday. Applications are available at the Fabric Shoppe on Mill St.

Also, those wishing to enter an article for judging please have them at the arena no later than Friday, September 16, at 11 a.m. Pickup of articles must be made after 5 p.m. on Sunday.

All ladies are reminded of our work day at the arena on Wednesday, September 14 (today) at 1 p.m. Please make every effort to attend.

The October meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Carmela Cobham on October 6th.



Martha Hoy-Weston gave a wool spinning demonstration at the Rockwood fair at the Academy Saturday. Hundred of cars lined the highway and filled nearby fields as fair goers flocked to the area. St. John's Church, Rockwood, sponsored the day.



Olive Garrick and Patricia Lather were on hand at the Rockwood fair at the Academy Saturday to sell homemade preserves. St. John's Church, Rockwood sponsored the day.

Rockwood

Registrations are tomorrow

by Barbara Funk

It's time to register for Cubs and Brownies again. This year registration for Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Pathfinders, Guides and Brownies will be tomorrow night, (Thursday). It will be at the Town Hall between 7 and 8 p.m.

The cost for registration this year will be as follows: for the girls' groups the charge will be \$10 and for the boys \$18 will be charged.

Marg Townsend, at 856-9983, will be happy to answer any questions concerning the girls' groups and any questions about the boys can be directed to Jan Osborne at 856-4605.

The Parent Group Committee for the Cubs, Scouts and Beavers are looking for volunteers to assist with the behind the scenes work. If any parent feels they can help out, please give Barbara Ware a call at 856-4791.

The scouts are also in need of one more leader, call Mrs. Ware.

Georgina Kelso of the Eramosa Community Library would like to remind everyone that the library has now returned to its regular hours. They are Tuesday and Thursday, 4 to 6 and 7 to 9 p.m. and on Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

The Squirt soccer team did it again. They won on August 30, defeating Acton 6-4. They played again last week in Prospect Park in Acton.

Anyone interested in bowling with the Rockwood League can call Fay Ritchie at 856-9641.

The Rockwood and District Lions Club will again be sponsoring a canvass on behalf of the Arthritis Society in the village September 12 to 16.

The September meeting of the Rock-a-long Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Harvey Bayne. The president, Mrs. B. LeRoy, opened the meeting with a reading "A Time to Risk".

A Rally of Wellington South, Centre and North Districts is being held October 4, 7 p.m. at Ponsonby Public School. A letter was read from Mrs. Barbara McNinch telling the branch of the appointment of Maxine Innes-Holbrough as the Rural Organization Specialist.

There is a quilt exhibition at Macdonald Stewart Art Centre from September 3 to October 16. Admission is free and tours are welcome.

Delegates were appointed to the Area Convention which is being held at the Col. John McCree Royal Canadian Legion, Guelph, October 20 and 21. The workshop for secretaries is

being held September 19. A donation to the International Ploughing Match, 1984, Ladies program is being sent. Arrangements were made for a food booth that the branch is having at a house sale in Everton on September 17.

Mrs. B. LeRoy introduced the guest speaker, Mrs. June Kaethler, co-ordinator for the V.O.N. Volunteer Visiting Program who showed slides on the work of the V.O.N. visiting program and told of the need for visiting volunteers.

Camper wrecked

A Milton woman suffered minor injuries in a one-vehicle accident on Highway 25 just south of Ospringe recently.

Guelph OPP say Carol Josephine Clark, 44, of Main St., Milton, was northbound on the highway, about 2 kilometres south of Ospringe on September 4 when she lost control of her truck. She drove to the east shoulder and hit the mail box on the west shoulder, shot back across the road and entered the east ditch, coming to rest in the ditch.

In the meantime, however, police say, the camper on the back of the truck came lose and was smashed to pieces as it hit the ground.

Mrs. Clark was treated for injuries and released at Guelph General Hospital. Police estimate \$5,000 to the camper, and about \$50 damage to each mailbox.

Legion happenings

by Jean Binden

We had 35 members present at our September meeting.

As you probably know, Pat McDowell is our new sports officer, as well as our bingo convener. Good work Pat I know you'll do a good job.

We will pay \$2 toward the bus for our sports out of town.

On the sick list we had Sharon Barker and Greta Moresau. Hope they are feeling better.

Our sports and culture is in Brampton September 10, and district crib October 1.

We need help for the fall fair dinner, so get in touch with Ruth. Dinners are \$2.50 for adults; \$1 for children under 12.

Shelley Stewart is married in Stroud

Shelley Wilma Stewart and Stephen Alan Gillies are making their home in New Brunswick following their July 31 wedding in Stroud.

The bride, of Orancton, New Brunswick, is a secretary for an employment agency. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Hugh Stewart, of Stroud, formerly of Acton, and is the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Stewart, Burlington, also formerly of Acton.

The groom of CFB Gagetown, New Brunswick, is a weapons technician with the Department of National Defense and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Alan Gillies, Mississauga.

Rev. K. C. Johnston officiated at the double ring ceremony at St. James United Church. Mrs. William Knapp was organist and Mrs. Leslie Brown was soloist.



Shelley Stewart and Stephen Gillies were married recently in Stroud.

Shelley wore her mother's bridal gown for her special day. It was of antique white allover satin on Grecian lines with a sheet neck yoke, fitted Alencon lace bodice and long pointed sleeves. The headdress was a halo of off-white miniature rosebuds, blossoms and baby's breath. She carried a clutch bouquet of off-white silk roses, miniature lilac lilies, baby's breath and terrace fern.

Joanne Hughes, Mississauga, was her friend's maid of honor and bridesmaid, was Gayle Allan, Georgetown, a friend and her niece Kim Adshade, Mississauga was junior bridesmaid.

Shelley was escorted down the aisle by her father.

Pichard Laidman, Mississauga, was best man and ushers were Steven Stewart, brother of the bride from Moncton, N.B., and brother of the groom Peter McGill, Mississauga.

The bride's uncle, Ray Everdell, was master of ceremonies at an evening reception and dance at The Spoke, Sandy Cove Acres. The couple honeymooned in Southern Ontario.

Guests attended from parts of Ontario, New Brunswick, New York State and Vancouver, B.C. Telephone calls of congratulations were received from Burlington and Calgary and a telegram came from Saudi Arabia.

Prior to her marriage, Shelly was guest of honor at two showers.



CNIB campaign organizer Vic Bristow raised the flag denoting the beginning of Blind Month in Ontario. A mail-in campaign is planned this year as compared to door-to-door canvassing as in other years.

Successful fireworks fund raising drive

All the accounting is done and the Acton Firefighters' Association has announced their fund raising drive to pay for the annual Canada Day weekend fireworks show paid off.

Spokesman John McNabb reported local businesses and organizations donated approximately \$4,000 to fund the show.

Following are the businesses which generously supported this community project (the list is supplied by the firefighters): Goy Cartage, Lakeview Centre, Halton Hills Collision, Superior Gove, Bee Zee Foods, Commercial Shearing, Thompson Fuels, Mackenzie-Chapman, Halton Hills Electric, Legion Branch 197, Acton Y's Men, Dublin W.I., Toronto Wood Treating, Speyside Welding, Legion Ladies' Auxiliary, Rotary Club, L & L Ford, Hornby Box and Pallet, Halton Hills Furniture and Appliance, Acton Free Press, Acton Firefighters' Association, J and T Sports, Canadian Tire, Braids and Valeriot and John's Auto Service.

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Eden Mills woman is teaching Highland dance

Those with a Scottish background, or those just wishing they had a Scottish background, will be able to partake in a little bit of homeland fun this fall as the Mary Ellen Cann Highland School of Dance begins classes in Rockwood.

Mary Ellen, an Eden Mills native, has a dance studio in Guelph, and also teaches highland dancing at the University of Guelph. Because some of her students are from Rockwood and Eden Mills, she decided to save them the drive.

The official date for the first class is not yet set, but Grant McRae, principal of Rockwood Centennial School, has encouraged her to set up shop in the school. She will be teaching those from four years on up everything from the Highland Fling, Sword Dance, Seann Triubhas, and the Irish Jig to National Dances. If the school catches on, classes will be held until June.

Mary Ellen's dancing career goes back 14 years, to when she was 11 years old. She knew she wanted to take dance lessons, but it wasn't until she saw Highland Dancing on television that she knew what kind she wanted. She started taking lessons with Guelph's Donna Fraser and stayed with her until 1979. She even helped Donna teach for a while.

After she left Donna's, Mary Ellen went and obtained her own teaching papers with Sue Irmisch in Burlington. She is a member of the British Association of Teachers of Dancing and the Scottish Dancing Teachers' Alliance.

Competing since she was 11, Mary Ellen has hundreds of medals and trophies on display. She's competed all over Western Ontario. She opened her own dance studio four years ago in Willow West Mall, Guelph.

In the past 14 years, Mary Ellen has even danced in front of Darcy McKeough and Fidel Castro's brother Rouel when he was at the University of Guelph. She has also been on cable television in Guelph.

Mary Ellen admits she has never been to



Mary Ellen Cann looks over part of her display of medals she has won with her highland dancing. She will be offering dance lessons in Rockwood Centennial School.

Scotland, but there is a bit of Scottish blood flowing through her veins. There are some Douglases and Fergusons on her father's side and Crichton on her mother's side of the family. For now, she says, she would be satisfied with visiting Nova Scotia.

In spite of her many hours of teaching, Mary Ellen actually holds down a full-time job in addition. She's a library technician at Guelph Library, where she works mainly in the information and current events department. She graduated from Sheridan College in 1980.

Planning a gathering and need some entertainment? Mary Ellen will manage to squeeze into her busy schedule enough time to perform herself, or have her students with her. It's good experience for the children, she points out, as well as fun for all.

Acton's paying \$1/4 million too much taxes — Knechtel

Acton citizens are collectively paying about a \$¼ million more in taxes than they should be each year, Councillor Ross Knechtel estimates.

Monday night Halton Hills council decided to ask the province to do a tax impact study of Acton to determine what will happen if Section 63 is adopted.

Section 63 is the only way for the Town to rid itself of an antiquated assessment and tax system in favor of a system based more on current market values. However, since a third of Halton Hills taxpayers are expected to see their taxes rise, it is a touchy political issue.

Earlier this year council narrowly rejected the tax impact study, despite the fact it wouldn't be binding on the Town to adopt Section 63.

Last month Knechtel, the leader of the pro Section 63 forces in council, produced graphs and a brief report showing Acton property owners are paying about 25 per cent higher taxes than Georgetown owners of similar properties.

Knechtel contended with Acton's mill rate substantially higher than Georgetown's, but Acton's equalization factors, (designed to balance out the mill rate disparity) shrinking to the level of Georgetown's, Acton was being "royally screwed". Equalization factors, as well as assessments, are established by the province.

A couple of weeks later, Treasurer Ray King brought in a report confirming there is a dramatic tax disparity between Acton and Georgetown. He also reported there are substantial tax disparities even within wards. King informed council the only way to solve these disparities was to adopt a tax reform program through Section 63.

These two reports obviously convinced councillors that they should at least take a no risk look at the tax impact of Section 63.

Now that the tax impact study has been approved, the issue will be on the shelf for about eight or nine months. Knechtel said the study won't be completed until next April or May.

Knechtel said his prediction that Acton's paying about \$¼ million too much in taxes each year was based on his review of the available data, but cautioned he might be wrong. The tax impact study would tell council just how bad the Acton-Georgetown, as well as the ward, disparity situation really is.

He said he didn't think council wanted such an unfair situation to continue.

Councillor Dave Whiting said it was up to responsible councillors to have every fact available at their fingertips when they make a final decision on tax and assessment reform. He reminded his colleagues there was no obligation connected with having the study done. All councillors knew some taxpayers aren't carrying their fair share, he said.

Councillor Harry Levy said he wasn't supporting the tax study just because Acton's paying more than Georgetown, but because there are drastic tax disparities within each ward of Halton Hills. Some people are underpaying and others are overpaying. The study would give councillors needed answers.

Councillor Pam Sheldon asked that some study be done sometime to see what council can do to cushion the blow or help the people whose taxes will jump if Section 63 is ever adopted.

Knechtel said there are options open to council, grants can be given, to assist those whose taxes will rise, and these avenues needed to be explored. But that aspect of the review of the issue could wait until after the tax impact study.

Mayor Peter Pomeroy praised Knechtel's handling of this controversial issue few politicians want to tackle. He said Knechtel's actions have been "fairly responsible." He added adoption of Section 63 was "inevitable", but didn't say when it would happen or if it would be the Town's choice or a directive from the province, should Queen's Park ever decide to straighten out the mess it created without putting local councillors on the spot.

Miller fund tops \$4,800

The Miller Fund has jumped another \$200 since last week, bringing the total to over \$4,800, according to Rev. Gerald Rennie. However, the family is still in need of accommodation, of at least two bedrooms.

The family was left homeless after fire swept through their Willow St. home last month, claiming the life of their husband and father Gene Miller, and a 14-year-old houseguest, Kathy Wears.

They are currently staying with relatives in Speyside.

Actario returns

Acton and area residents will have two lotteries to play this fall.

There's already the Acton Minor Hockey Association lottery and tickets are on sale now the Heritage Acton's Actario lottery.

Actario returns, with some changes, in October.

The first two years the lottery ran tickets were sold on a year-long basis for \$2 draws for \$100. There was one weekly draw for \$350, a monthly trip draw, and weekly draw for bonus vouchers from local merchants.

Instead of one weekly cash prize of \$350, there will now be three Actario cash prizes a week. The value of the prizes will be \$200, \$100 and \$50. There will also be a draw for a trip at the end of each month.

Also, instead of \$100 for 52 weeks of draws, now tickets will be sold for \$10 a month for up to three months of draws. The lottery may be expanded beyond the present three month series. Actario players can buy one, two or three month's worth of tickets.

The first month's series of draws begins October 15 and ends November 5.

Local community groups are expected to again sell Actario tickets and so share in the proceeds by receiving commissions.

Most of the funds raised through Actario will continue to be used by Heritage Acton for restoration of the town hall.